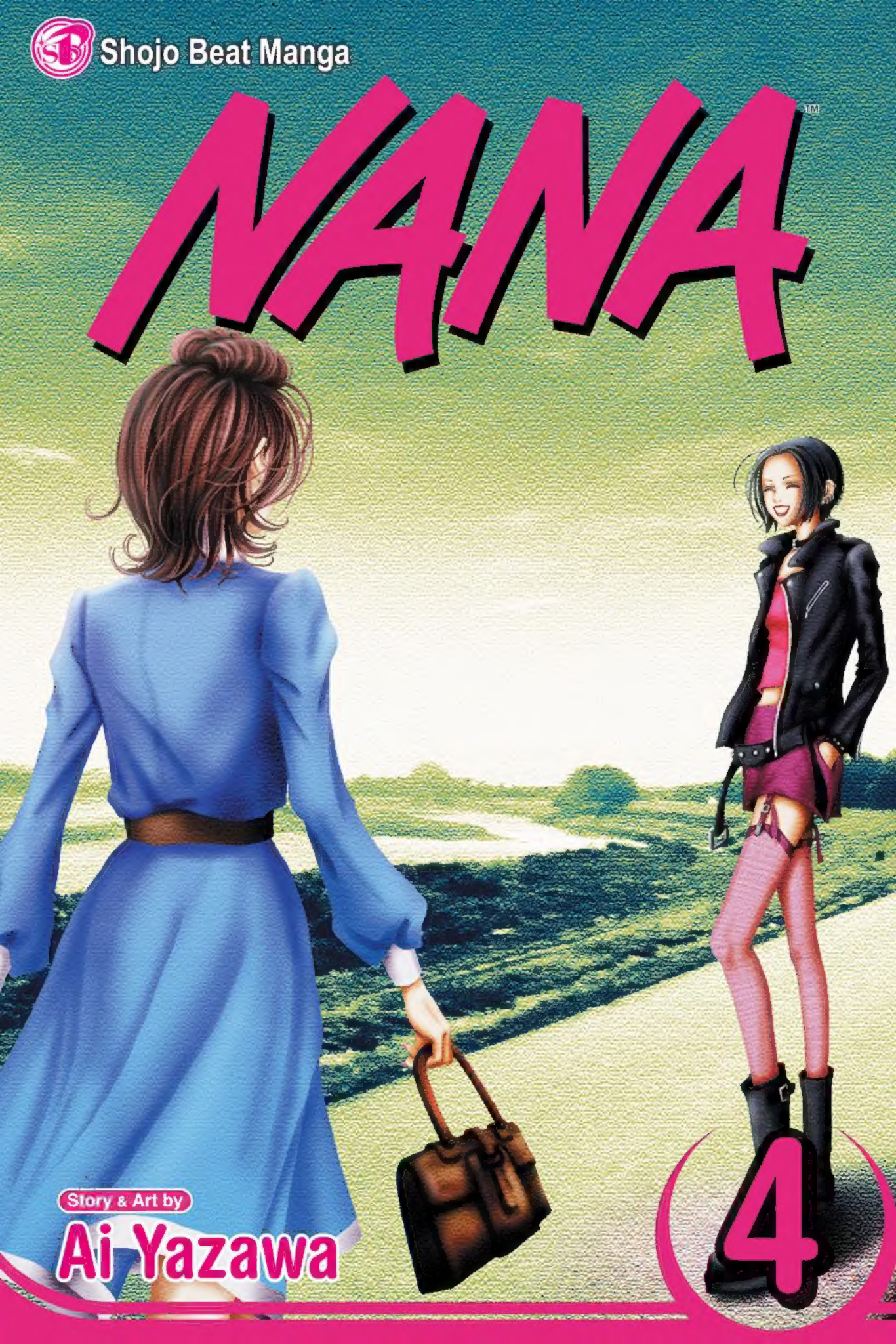

Shojo Beat Manga
NANA
Story & Art by
Ai Yazawa
4

Shojo Beat

NANA Vol. 4

Story & Art by Ai Yazawa

NANA

Contents

Chapter 9 3
Chapter 10 51
Chapter 11 97
Chapter 12 143
Bonus Pages 180

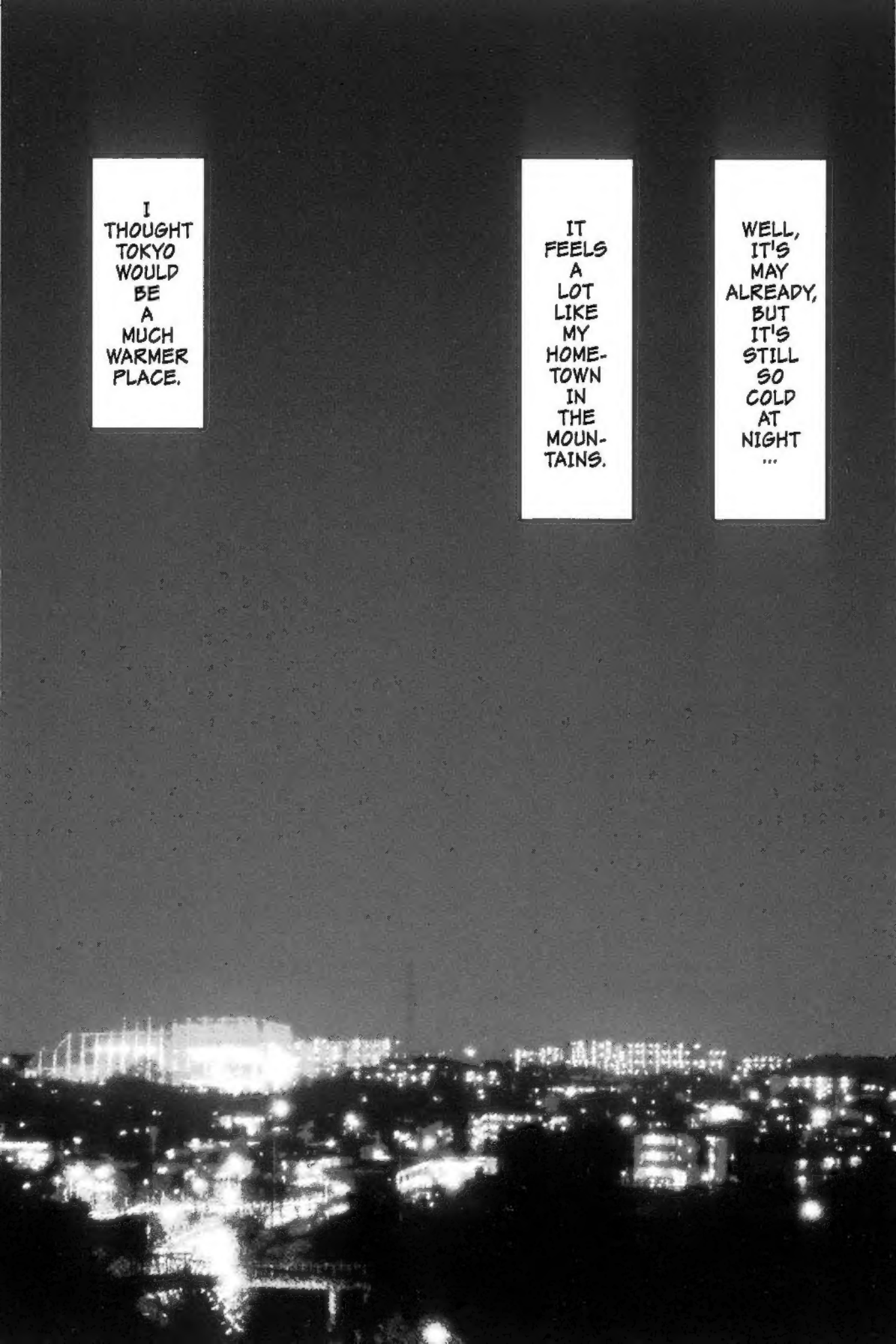
The Story of Nana

Nana Komatsu and Nana Osaki meet for the first time on a train bound for Tokyo. Even though they have different personalities and come from different backgrounds, fate (or maybe chance?) brings them together. Later, while looking for a place to live, the two Nanas bump into each other again and decide to become roommates.

Hoping to become more independent, Nana Komatsu gets a part-time job. But as luck would have it, the shop she works at closes down. Needing a steady paycheck more than ever, she takes a job as the secretary at a publishing company. Meanwhile, Nana Osaki's friends Nobu and Yasu come to Tokyo hoping to put their old band back together. The band needs a new bass player, and they hook up with a kid named Shin and start practicing. With each new day, Nana O.'s rock'n'roll dreams get stronger and stronger.

Shoji, the guy Nana K. considers her boyfriend, has an affair with Sachiko, a fellow art school student and coworker. At first he feels guilty about his dalliance. But after thinking about it, he decides to finally tell Nana...

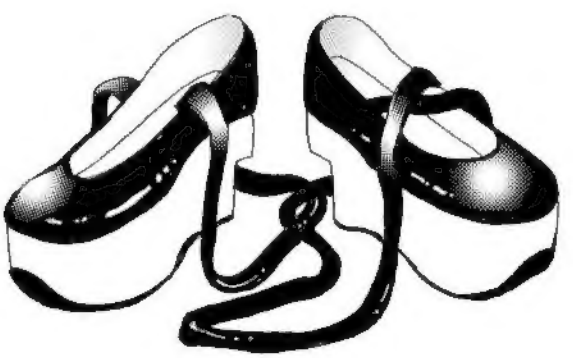
♥For the complete story, please check out *Nana*, volumes 1 - 3.
Available in bookstores everywhere!!


I THOUGHT TOKYO WOULD BE A MUCH WARMER PLACE.
IT FEELS A LOT LIKE MY HOME-TOWN IN THE MOUN-TAINS.
WELL, IT'S MAY ALREADY, BUT IT'S STILL SO COLD AT NIGHT ...

NANA

[Chapter 9]

NANA
ナナ



ONE DAY IT'S HOT LIKE SUMMER, AND THE NEXT IT'S BACK TO WINTER AGAIN.
THIS WEATH-ER'S SO WEIRD.
YEAH ...
WE'RE IN TOKYO, BUT IT FEELS SO COUNTRY OUT HERE.
IT SCARES ME...
THE EARTH'S GONNA CRACK!
RESTAURANT
Ring ring
Cough
WHY?
SAY WHAT ?!
YOU'RE GOING STRAIGHT TO HELL!
YOU'RE WHAT SCARES ME, SHIN!

HELLO?
MAYUMI?
YEAH.
SURE— WHERE ARE YOU?
OH—
IT'S ME.
....
MAYUMI?
AT ROPPONGI?
I'M KINDA OUT IN THE 'BURBS RIGHT NOW.
CAN I TAKE A CAB?
REALLY? ALL RIGHT!♡
....
YEAH, I'LL COME RIGHT OVER.
SORRY, LADIES, BUT I HAVE SOME BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO.
I GOTTA SPLIT.
OH...
WELL, TAKE CARE.
SHIN...
FOR REAL
YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU WANT, BUT DON'T DO ANYTHING THAT'LL GIVE THE BAND A BAD RAP.
JUST KEEP IT TO YOURSELF!
Nana!

SHIN'S ONLY 15.
WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE NOT TO PUSH HIM AWAY.
BE GENTLE.
WHAT IF HE JOINS A BIKER GANG OR SOMETHING?
?
.....
WELL, AT LEAST THAT MIGHT TOUGHEN HIM UP.
HEY, SHIN ...
DO BIKER GANGS STILL EXIST?
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU RAN AWAY FROM HOME...
BUT IT MUST'VE BEEN HARD FOR YOU, RIGHT?
WAS YOUR STEP-MOTHER HORRIBLE?
.....
...
STEP-MOTHER?
IT'S OKAY!
I WON'T MAKE YOU TALK ABOUT SUCH PAINFUL THINGS.
POOR LITTLE SHIN!
...
BUT SHIN, PLEASE JUST TRY TO UNDERSTAND ONE THING...
KEEP IT REAL WITH YOUR GIRLFRIENDS, OR YOU'LL GET HURT.
ESPECIALLY IF YOU KEEP MOOCHING...
I PROMISE I'LL BE CAREFUL.
OKAY ...
Kyuu

WELL, THAT'S OVER.
Phew
WHAT'S OVER ?!
NOTHING'S CHANGED!
WHAT KIND OF ADVICE WAS THAT?!
.....
SELF CONTROL!
ADVICE?
NO, I WAS WARN-ING HIM...
I'M OUTTA HERE.
I GOTTA WORK IN THE MORN-ING.
DON'T LEAVE ME! STAY HERE!
WHAT'LL I DO HERE ALL BY MYSELF ?!
YOU'RE REALLY GONNA WAIT 'TIL SHOJI GETS OFF WORK ?
HE STILL HAS AT LEAST ANOTHER HOUR LEFT.
BUT ...
WHY WAIT? HE SAID HE'LL COME OVER LATER.
NANA!

BUT ...
JUN SAID I SHOULD TRY TO SHOW HIM I CARE!
YEAH YEAH.
THEN LET'S WAIT IN THE RESTAU-RANT.
NO!
THAT'S TOO OBVIOUS.
HE TOLD ME NOT TO WAIT, SO I DON'T WANT TO LOOK LIKE A WEIRD STALKER...
SO THEN LET'S GO HOME!
MAKING HIM THINK I WENT HOME, BUT THEN REALLY WAITING FOR HIM— THAT WOULD IMPRESS HIM.
That's totally stupid!
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND THE WAYS OF A WOMAN IN LOVE!
Waaaaa
I REALLY DON'T!
I HATE THAT MANIPU-LATIVE CRAP...

IF YOU'RE GONNA WAIT...
...BECAUSE YOU LOVE HIM, THEN I'LL STAY WITH YOU.
YEAH...
WELL SURE... THAT MUCH IS TRUE.
THEN DON'T MAKE EXCUSES.
LITTLE LIAR...
JUST WAG YOUR TAIL QUIETLY AND WAIT.
I HATE THAT MANIPULATIVE CRAP..
AHEM!

THUMP
.....
NANA!
I'M FINE. YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
YOU HAVE A SHOW SOON ...
I'M NOT AS FRAGILE AS YOU.
IT'S NOT VERY COLD ANYWAY.
IT'S FREEZ-ING OUT!
WHAT-EVER!
COMPARED TO BACK HOME, TOKYO'S A TROPICAL PARADISE.
WE WERE BURIED IN SNOW HALF THE YEAR.
NANA'S FROM A PLACE LIKE THAT?

I'D LIKE TO SEE WHERE NANA GREW UP.
IT'S SO WARM ...
THANKS, NANA.
GOOD.
FINALLY, YOU'RE BEING HONEST.
SO SHOJI ...
...SAID HE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ?
HE SOUNDED ALL SERIOUS.
YEAH, IT'S WEIRD ...
THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT TO BE LEFT ALONE.
THANKS FOR WAITING WITH ME.

I LISTENED TO SOME SONG NANA WAS SINGING REAL QUIETLY...
I JUST COULDN'T TALK.
THAN IN THIS CITY, WHERE YOU CAN'T SEE THE STARS.
SHE SEEMED TO FIT IN BETTER WITH SNOWY MOUN-TAINS ...
NANA'S EYES WERE SO CLEAR ...
I COULDN'T JUST WAIT FOR SHOJI WITHOUT EXPECTING SOMETHING IN RETURN.
SHE'S RIGHT... I WAS MANIPU-LATIVE.

I WASN'T SO NAIVE ANYMORE ... BUT I SURE PRETENDED TO BE ...
'CAUSE I WANTED NANA TO LIKE ME.

SLAM
I'M GO-ING HOME.
GOOD NIGHT!
THAT WAS QUICK
OH?
.....
SACHIKO...
I...

ZIP
I'M GONNA BREAK UP WITH MY GIRL-FRIEND.
HEY !
SACHIKO !
OH ...
THEY CLOSED UP.
SOME-ONE JUST LEFT.
REALLY ?

HUH ?
WHAT THE ...?!

THAT GIRL ...
OH ...
I'M SO SORRY...
SACHIKO...

THIS MUST BE A BAD DREAM...
SHOJI ...

WHAT'RE YOU DOING ?
AND WHO'S THIS GIRL ?
MY GIRL-FRIEND ...
WHAT ?!

THIS CAN'T...
ARE YOU TELL-ING ME...
YOU HAVE TWO GIRL-FRIENDS ?!
WHAT A LUCKY GUY, HUH?!
THIS CAN'T BE TRUE...
I WANNA TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING...
THIS ISN'T HAPPENING...
I'M SO SORRY...
BUT SHOJI...

...WOULDN'T DO THIS TO ME!

OMIGOD
...
DON'T!

SACHIKO!
JUST STAY BACK!
DON'T HURT SHOJI!
YOU SHUT UP!
HE DESERVES TO GET HIS ASS KICKED!
HEY!
NO! DON'T!
STAY OUT OF IT, YOU LITTLE BRAT!
WHY DON'T YOU STAY OUT OF IT ?!
SHE'S GOT A POINT ...
IF YOU WANNA HIT SOMEONE, HIT ME!
STOP!

I WON'T RUN AND HIDE ANY-MORE, SO HIT ME AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!
BUT I...
I JUST COULDN'T STOP MY-SELF.
I KNEW HE HAD A GIRL-FRIEND ...
IT'S MY FAULT! I FELL IN LOVE WITH HIM!
YOU GOT SOME NERVE, GIRL.
PLEASE! JUST STOP!
CLOUT
FRIEND

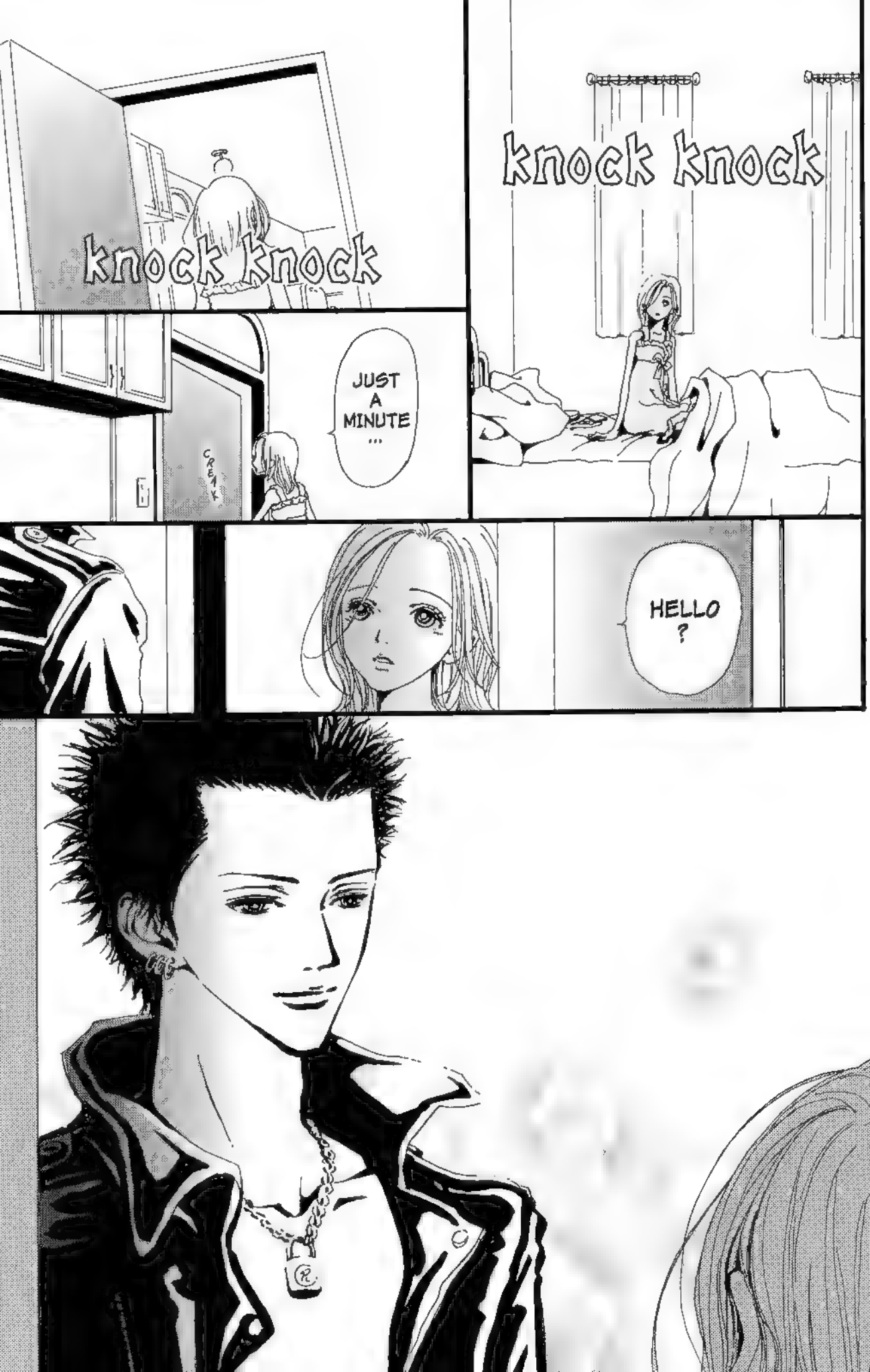
WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE ?!
HE'S YOUR BOY-FRIEND! DO SOME-THING!
HACHI!
IF YOU DON'T FIGHT FOR HIM, YOU LOSE!
HE'S YOUR BOY-FRIEND!
FIGHT FOR HIM!

I DON'T WANT A GUY LIKE THAT ...
I DON'T ...
...EVER WANT TO SEE HIS FACE AGAIN!

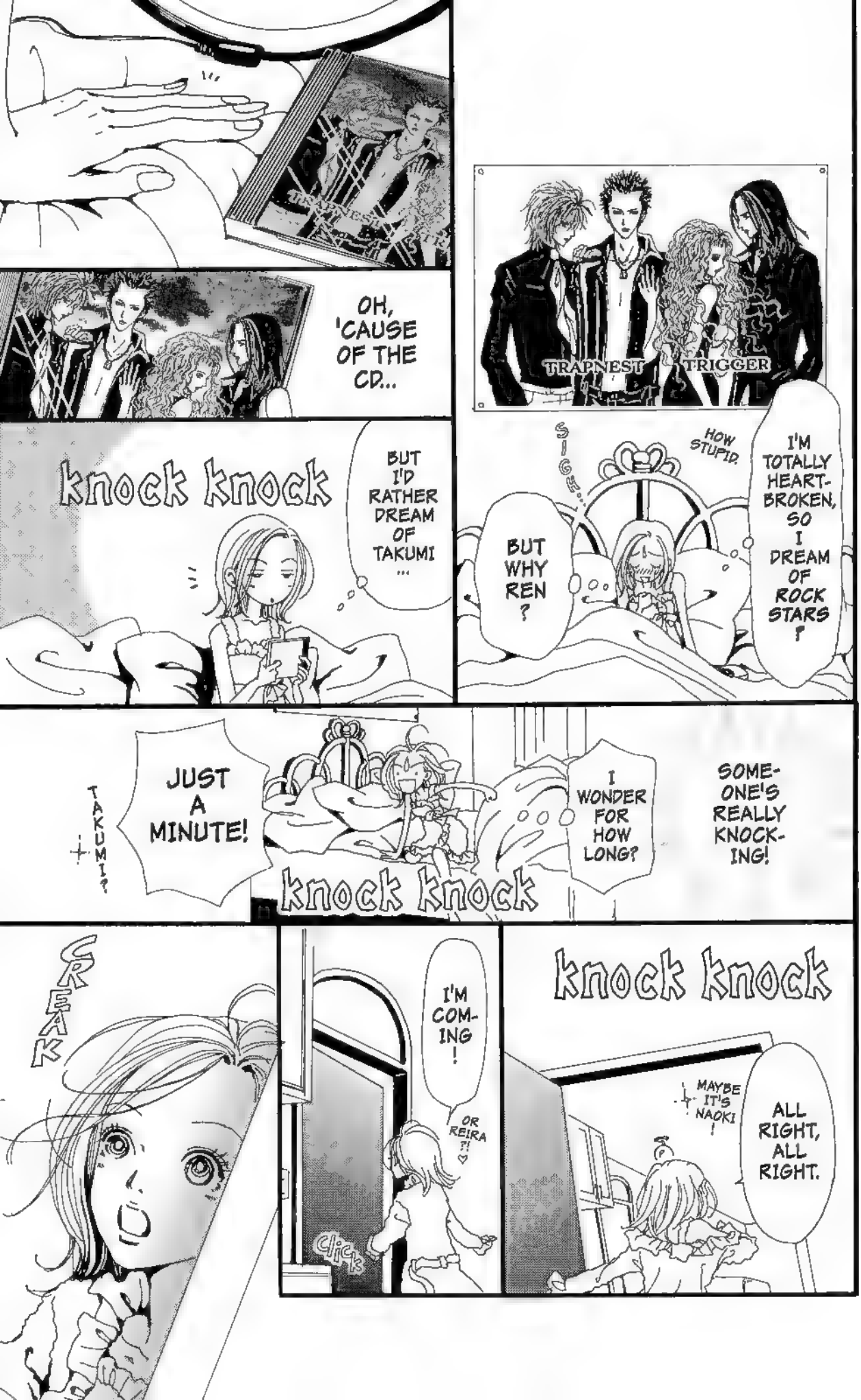
I WASN'T CAPABLE ...
OF FOR-GIVING BE-TRAYAL.
I HAD TOO MUCH PRIDE ...
...TO FIGHT FOR SOME-ONE WHO HURT ME.
SO OF COURSE I LOST.

TRAPNEST
TRIGGER

LIKE I HAD THE FLU OR SOME-THING...
I SPENT THE WHOLE NEXT DAY IN BED...
I NEED A MAJOR DISTRAC-TION...
SO I DON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT ...
BUT I CAN'T DO ANY-THING ...
NOTH-ING BUT SHOJI IN MY NIGHT-MARES.
. . . . . knock knock
knock knock


knock knock
knock knock
JUST A MINUTE ...
CREAK
HELLO ?

WHAT?
REN ?!
knock knock
OMIGOD...
JUST A DREAM...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

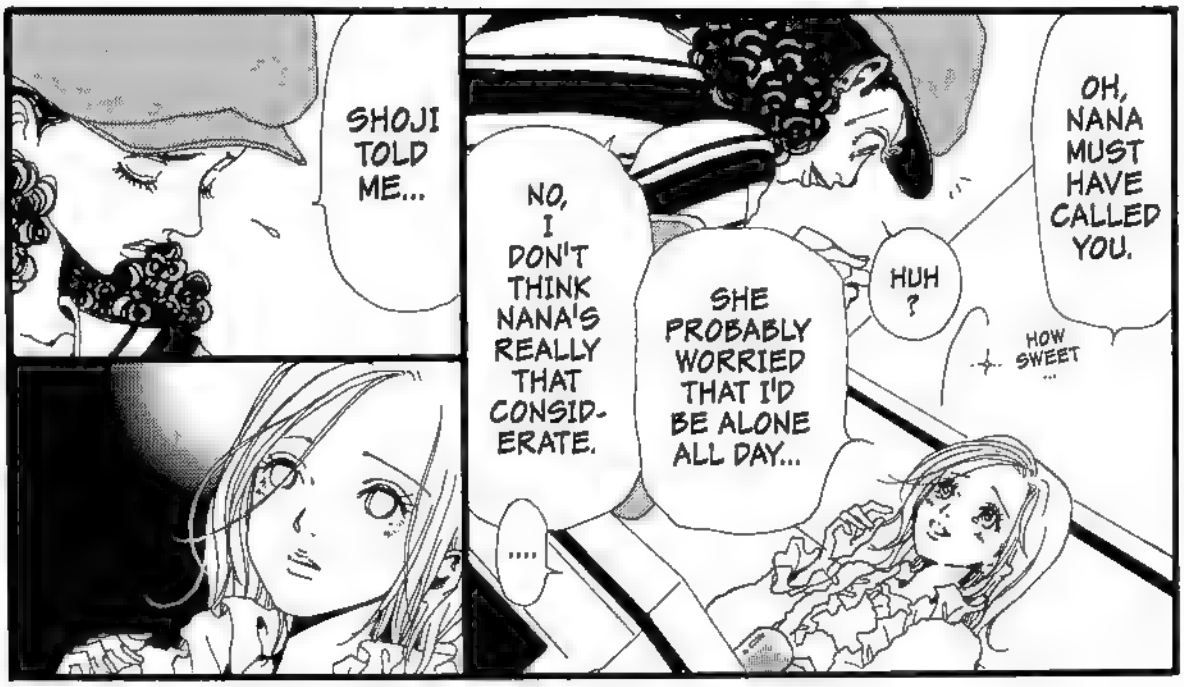

OH, 'CAUSE OF THE CD...
TRAPNEST
TRIGGER
knock knock
BUT I'D RATHER DREAM OF TAKUMI ...
SIGH...
HOW STUPID.
I'M TOTALLY HEART-BROKEN, SO I DREAM OF ROCK STARS !
BUT WHY REN ?
TAKUMI?
JUST A MINUTE!
knock knock
I WONDER FOR HOW LONG?
SOME-ONE'S REALLY KNOCK-ING!
CREAK
I'M COM-ING !
OR REIRA ?! ♡
Click
knock knock
MAYBE IT'S NAOKI !
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT.

Thank God... you're alive!

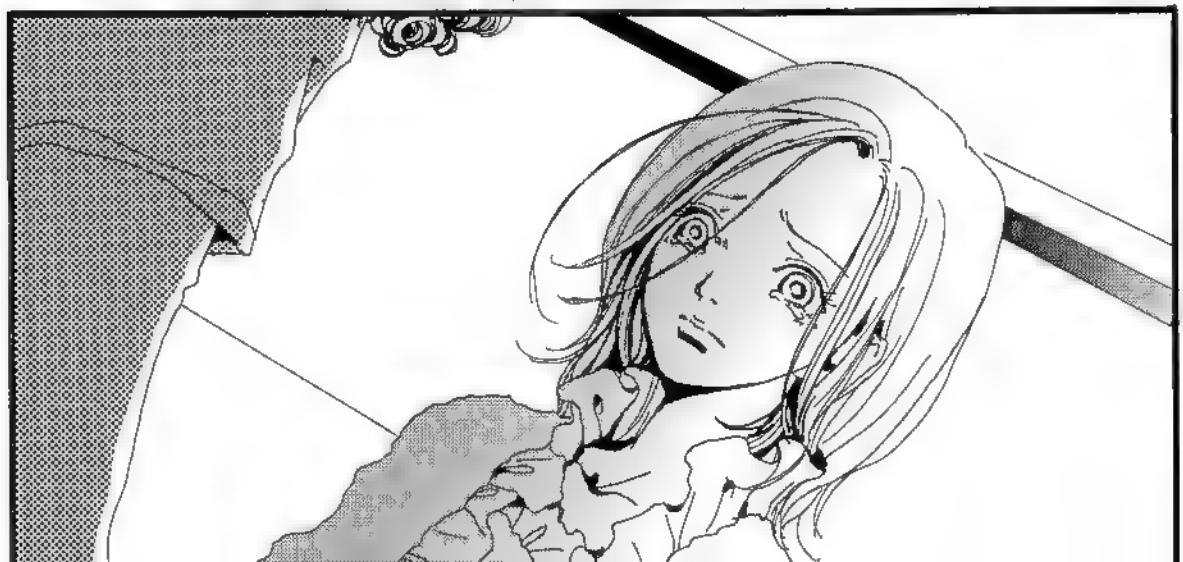
GIRL...
I WAS KNOCKING SO HARD, FOR SO LONG.
I WAS SCARED YOU'D SLIT YOUR WRISTS WITH A RAZOR BLADE!
I WAS FREAK-ING OUT!
I COULD SEE IT ALL...
OMIGOD!
BLOOD SPURTING OUT...
SAM
...
OF MY WRISTS?

SLITTING MY WRISTS...
MIGHT BE BETTER THAN JUMPING...
WELL, I GUESS YOU HEARD ABOUT LAST NIGHT...
.....

DAMN.
OH, IT'S YOU, JUN...
.....
ㅗㅜ


SHOJI TOLD ME...
NO, I DON'T THINK NANA'S REALLY THAT CONSID-ERATE.
....
SHE PROBABLY WORRIED THAT I'D BE ALONE ALL DAY...
HUH ?
OH, NANA MUST HAVE CALLED YOU.
HOW SWEET ...

... WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HE SAID HE WAS...

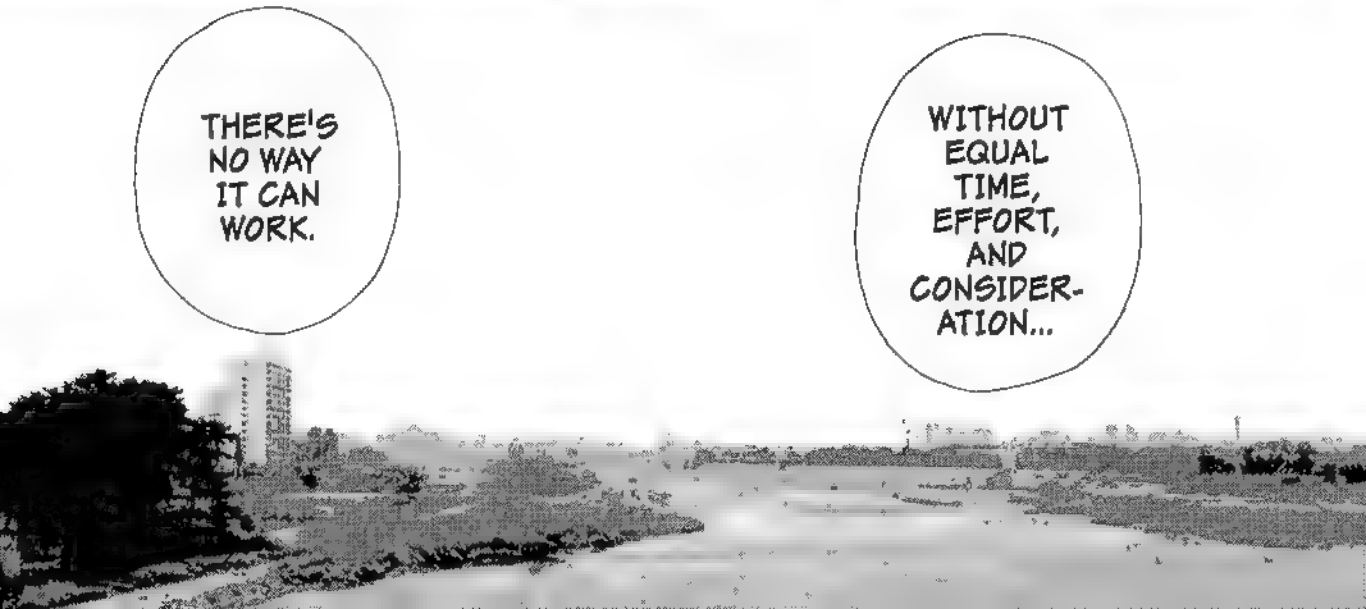


WELL, IF HE CAN'T TELL ME HIMSELF ...!
THAT COWARD SHOULD WORRY ABOUT HIS OWN DAMN SELF!
OH, HE'S WORRIED ?!
I THINK SHOJI'S HAVING A HARD TIME, TOO.
BUT, NANA ...
LIKE WITH HIS PERSONALITY ...
HE CAN DO HIS OWN DIRTY WORK.
YOU'RE RIGHT... I'M SO SORRY.

NO, NO— I'M JUST SAYING ...
ARE YOU TAKING HIS SIDE ?!
SHOJI TOTALLY CHEATED ON ME!
HE WAS LYING AND SNEAKING AROUND FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG!
I DON'T THINK IT WAS FOR THAT LONG.
BUT TRY NOT TO THINK OF IT LIKE THAT.
WHY ARE YOU STICKING UP FOR HIM?!
ไม่ๆๆๆ
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.

I DON'T WANT YOU TO ALWAYS BE THE VICTIM.
I CAN'T ALWAYS TAKE YOUR SIDE.
SHOJI'S A GOOD FRIEND, AND SO ARE YOU...
IT'S HARD FOR ME...
SHOJI SHOULD HAVE BROKEN UP WITH YOU BEFORE STARTING SOMETHING WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
THIS TIME IT'S TRUE...
YEAH... I KNOW...
BUT ...
I TRIED REALLY HARD, JUN. I REALLY DID.
BUT EVEN BEFORE THAT ...
THERE WERE PROBLEMS BETWEEN YOU TWO.

I EVEN GOT A JOB...
SO I COULD BE INDEPEN-DENT ...
BUT WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH SHOJI?
I THINK YOU WERE USUALLY JUST THINKING ABOUT YOUR-SELF.
MAYBE SHOJI FELT A LITTLE LEFT OUT OF THE EQUATION.
RELATION-SHIPS...
ARE ABOUT TWO PEOPLE INTERACT-ING...

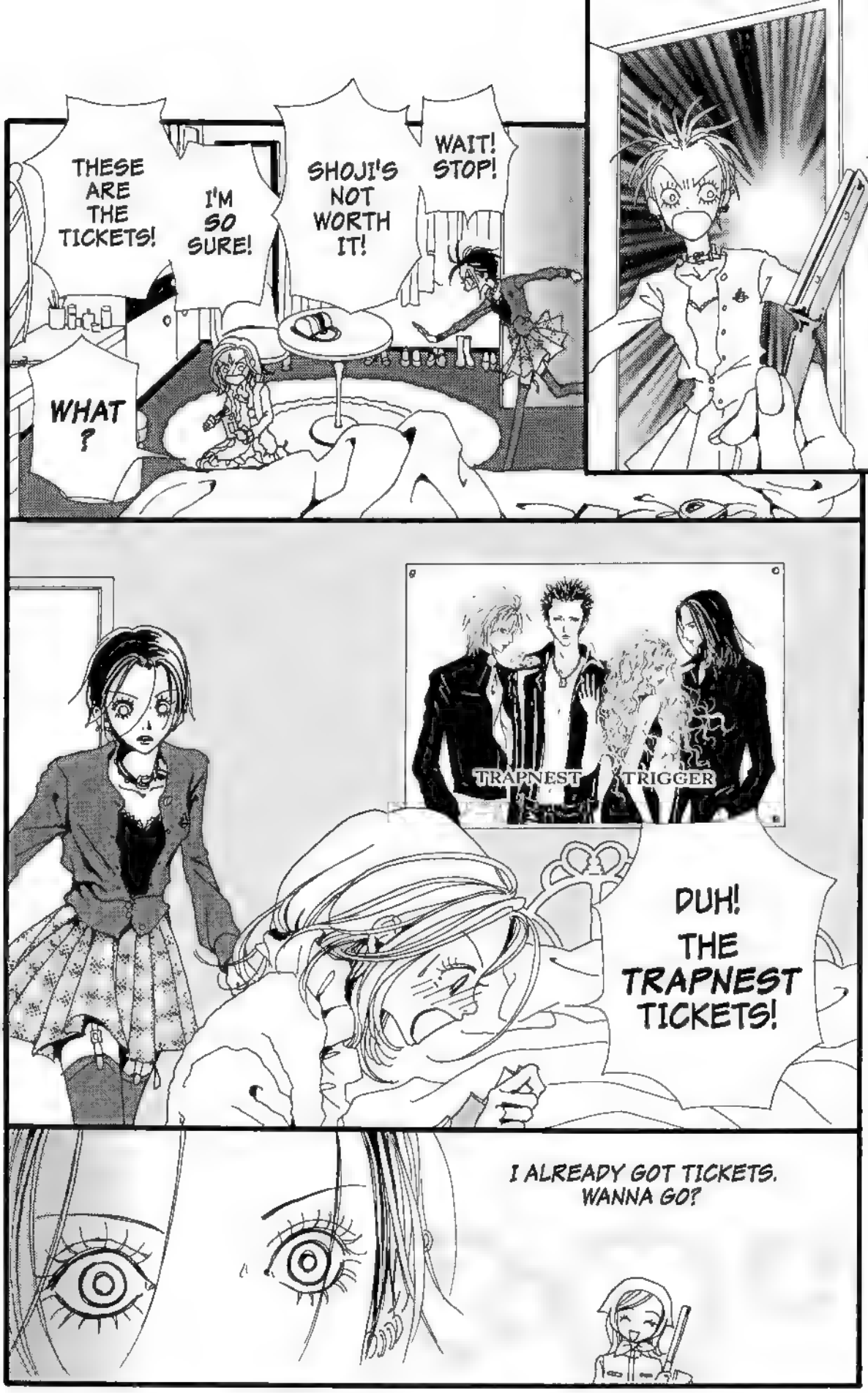

WITHOUT EQUAL TIME, EFFORT, AND CONSIDER-ATION...
THERE'S NO WAY IT CAN WORK.

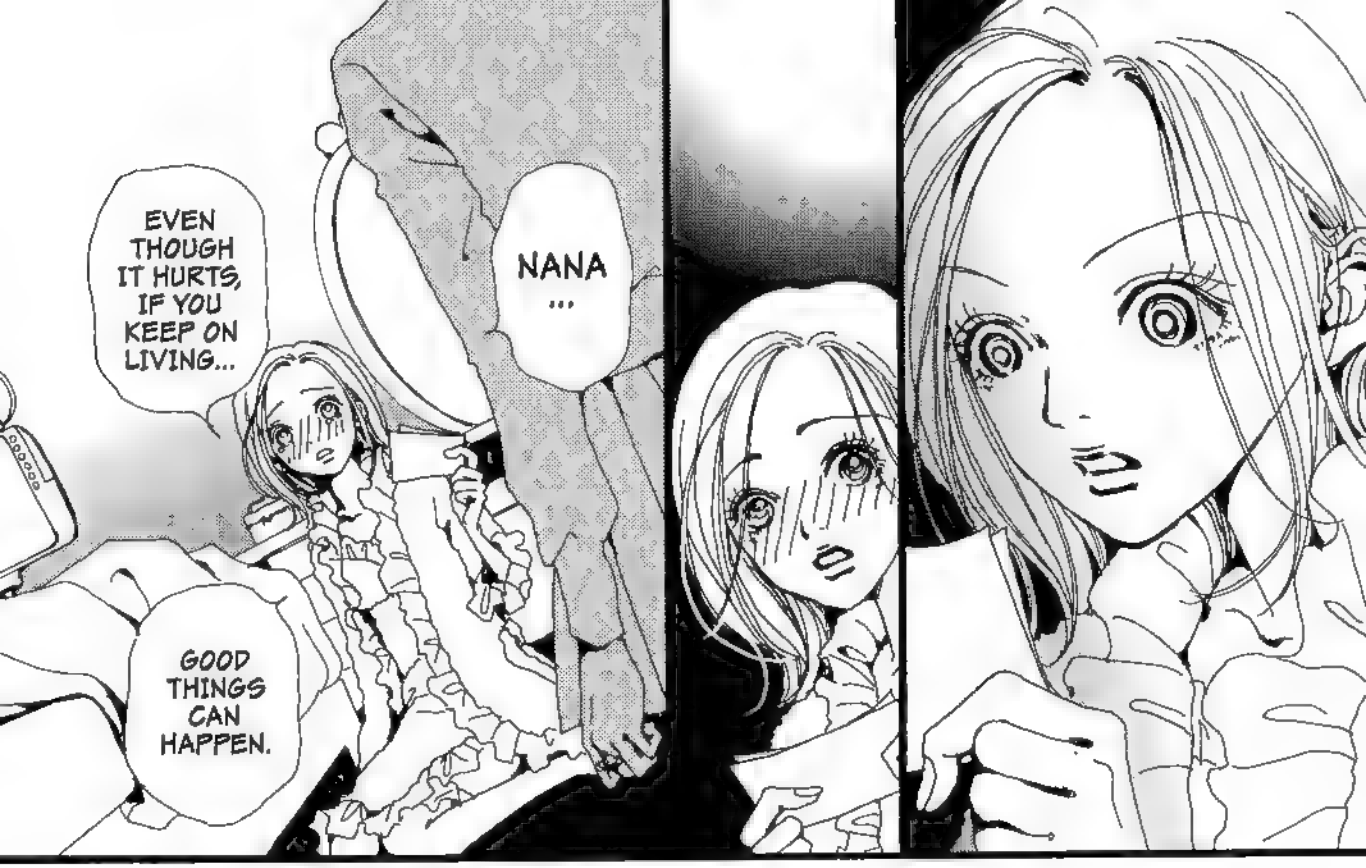
HONEY, I'M HOME !
.....
FLICK

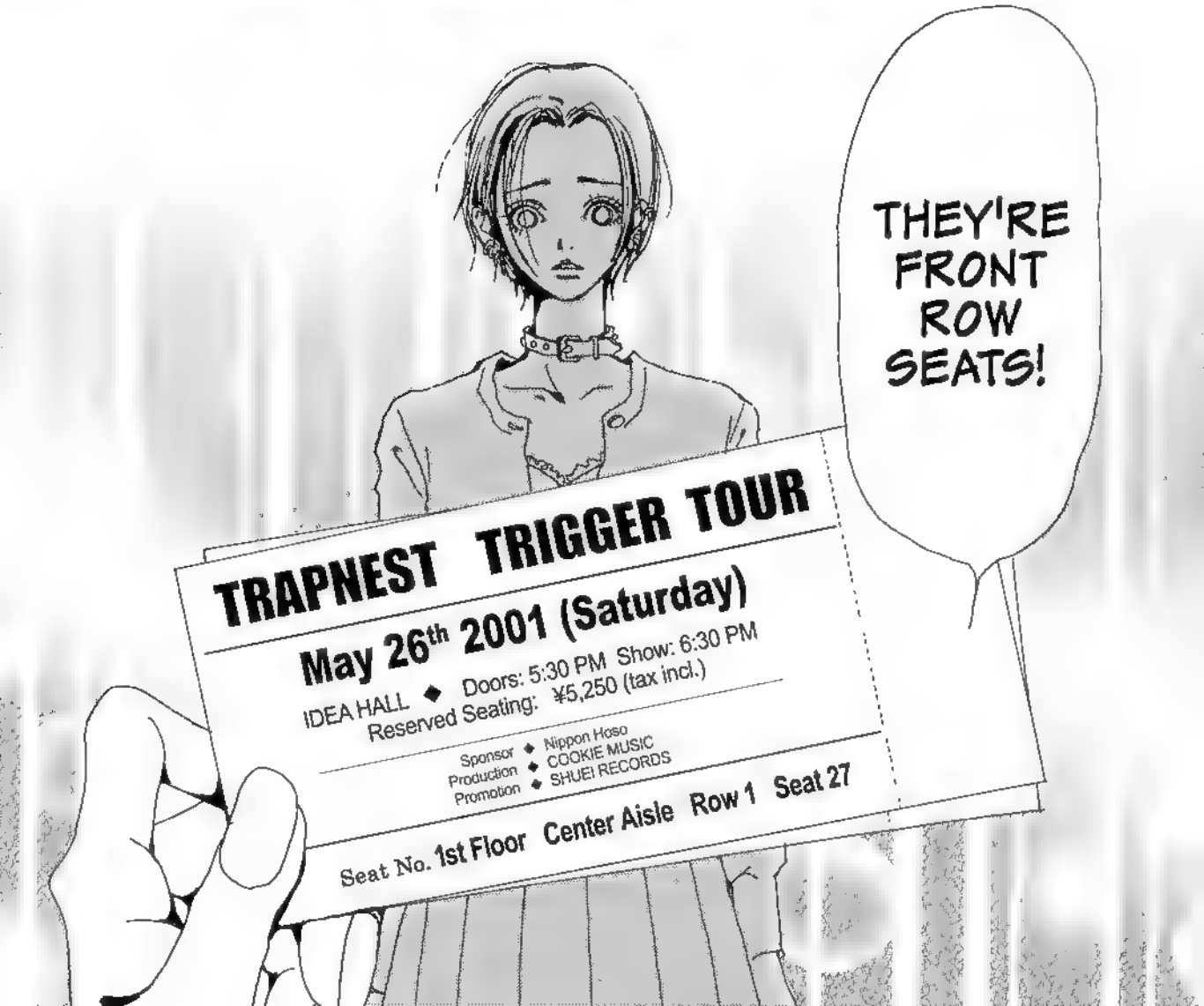
AT LEAST TURN A LIGHT ON!
HOW DEPRESSING CAN YOU GET?!
NANA! YOU'RE HOME!
NO WAY! WHAT TIME IS IT?!
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
I'M SO SORRY, I DIDN'T MAKE ANYTHING...
I FIGURED, SO I GOT TAKE OUT.
LET'S EAT! ♡
.....
YOU'RE SO HAPPY YOU'RE CRYING?
WELL, THAT'S GOOD.
I'VE BEEN THINKING...
NANA, YOU'RE SELF-CENTERED, BUT YOU'RE STILL CONSIDERATE.
I'M JEALOUS.
CONSIDERATE?
WHAT'S THIS "YOU'RE SELF-CENTERED, BUT..." THING?

AND THEN THERE'S ME...
EVEN NOW, I'M ONLY THINKING OF MYSELF.
I DIDN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT YOU COMING HOME HUNGRY!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT.
IT'D BE SCARY IF YOU ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT ME!
FRIEND-SHIPS ARE ABOUT TWO PEOPLE INTER-ACTING ...
I SHOULD AT LEAST MAKE TEA.
?
WELL, THAT'S OBVIOUS ...
HEY, YOU GOT A LETTER FROM NATSUKO.
IT WAS IN THE MAIL-BOX.
A LETTER FROM MOM?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED?
REALLY?!
NATSUKO MUST HAVE A SIXTH SENSE.
WHEN YOU'RE IN A BIND, SHE ALWAYS COMES THROUGH.
WHAT ARE MOTHERS FOR?
IF SHE TOLD ME TO COME HOME...
Natsuko Komatsu
I'D DO IT IN A SECOND.

AAAH!
WHAT'S A REGISTERED LETTER?
SO THEN SHE SENDS IT BY REGULAR MAIL ?!
WHAT'S THE POINT ?
A registered letter came for you. You should at least change your mailing address.
THAT'S IT?!
.....
NO MOTHERLY COMFORT ?
SCISSORS!
NO!
IT WON'T OPEN!
CALM DOWN!
ARE YOU OKAY ?!
Hachi... WHAT'S WRONG ?!
I NEED A RAZOR BLADE!
OH!
WHERE'D I PUT THEM?
WHADDYA MEAN "NO"?!
WHAT ?!


THESE ARE THE TICKETS!
I'M SO SURE!
SHOJI'S NOT WORTH IT!
WAIT! STOP!
WHAT ?
TRAPNEST
TRIGGER
DUH! THE TRAPNEST TICKETS!
I ALREADY GOT TICKETS. WANNA GO?


EVEN THOUGH IT HURTS, IF YOU KEEP ON LIVING...
NANA ...
GOOD THINGS CAN HAPPEN.


THEY'RE FRONT ROW SEATS!
TRAPNEST TRIGGER TOUR
May 26th 2001 (Saturday)
IDEA HALL ◆ Doors: 5:30 PM Show: 6:30 PM
Reserved Seating: ¥5,250 (tax incl.)
Sponsor ◆ Nippon Hoso
Production ◆ COOKIE MUSIC
Promotion ◆ SHUEI RECORDS
Seat No. 1st Floor Center Aisle Row 1 Seat 27

Seat No. 1st Floor Center Aisle Row 1 Seat 27

Seat No. 1st Floor [illegible]le Row 1 Seat 28

COME TO THINK OF IT...

I NEVER HAD ANY LUCK, ESPE-CIALLY...

WITH THINGS LIKE THIS.

THOSE TICKETS CAME DOWN FROM THE GODS...

...ESPECIALLY FOR YOU, NANA.

NANA
ナナ
[Chapter 10]

BUT I WANTED SO MUCH TO BE LOVED.
I DIDN'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO LOVE ANYONE...
BACK IN THOSE DAYS ...
BAR

WHAT THE HELL ?!
DIDN'T YOU GO OVER THERE TO COMFORT NANA?
SO WHY'D YOU LECTURE HER?
IT JUST CAME OUT...
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE BRUTALLY HONEST WITH SOMEONE WHO'S JUST HAD THEIR HEART BROKEN.
NOW WHO'S BEING INCONSID-ERATE?
I SAID IT FOR NANA'S OWN GOOD...
WELL, MAYBE IT'S NOT THE RIGHT TIME...
BUT IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE WHEN PEOPLE LISTEN.
HELLO! WELCOME!
HUH?

TWO DRAFT BEERS TO START WITH.
SNATCH
PLOP
SURE THING.
HE CALLED IN SICK TODAY.
Nobo
WHERE'S KOICHI SATO ?
NOBO ?
OH, REALLY ?
I GUESS IT'S SEA-SONAL.
.....
shrug
flip
shrug
PLOP
PLUNK
WHY YOU TRYING TO HIDE FROM US, SHOJI ?
puff
glug glug
.....

DON'T MIND ME...
I'M JUST A CHARACTER WHO'S ON MY WAY OUT...
NOT SO FAST! YOU'RE STILL HERE!
AND WE CAN ALL SEE YOU.
BUT I WAS JUST ...
COME HAVE A DRINK WITH US.
YOU'RE SUCH A COWARD.
YOU'RE STUCK IN THIS STORY EVEN IF THE READERS HATE YOU AND CALL YOU NAMES.
WHY'D I EVEN COME HERE?
BAD HABITS DIE HARD.
STOP CRY-ING.
SO HOW'S WORK ?
YOU GOT THE DAY OFF?
NO.
I GET OFF EARLY DURING GOLDEN WEEK, SIR.
STOP TALKING LIKE THAT!
YOU CAN'T JUST SWITCH CHARAC-TERS.
I WENT TO CHECK UP ON NANA...
SHE'S SUPER-BUMMED AT YOU...
MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST STEER CLEAR FOR NOW.

TALK ABOUT WHAT?!
TO MAKE MORE EXCUSES?!
SHOJI SAID HE SCREWED UP BAD WITH NANA, SO HE WANTS TO TALK WITH HER ONCE...
WELL...
STEER CLEAR FOR NOW?
WHAT?
.....
YOUR CAKE-AND-EAT-IT-TOO ATTITUDE HURT BOTH NANA AND SACHIKO.
FIGURE IT OUT, DUDE!
DON'T BOTHER. IF YOU DON'T WANNA GET BACK WITH NANA, YOU TWO SHOULD BREAK THINGS OFF COMPLETELY.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO REPEAT MYSELF?
I'M SORRY...
.....
.....
NO, THERE'S NO EXCUSE!
I THINK SHE DESERVES AN APOLOGY.
BUT...
YOU JUST WANNA GET IT OFF YOUR CHEST, SO YOU CAN FEEL BETTER.
YOU DON'T WANNA APOLOGIZE TO NANA 'CAUSE YOU CARE...

KYO-SUKE ...
YOU'RE KINDA BRUTAL YOUR-SELF.
YOU THINK ?
HMMM...
I'M EASY ON WOMEN, BUT NOT ON MEN.
IT'S MY M.O.
shoot
NOBO! CHECK PLEASE.
YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY FROM US?
NO. YOU'RE TOTALLY RIGHT.
I'LL MAKE MYSELF SCARCE.
WHERE ?
WHAT'S WITH THE FLOWERS ?
WHAT ?
JUST LET ME GO.
THAT'S THE BAR'S TEN-GALLON ...
OH, NOTH-ING.
SEE YA.
HEY!
.....
HEY, SHOJI !

IT'S HIS GIRL-FRIEND'S BIRTHDAY TODAY.
PLUNK
AND THUS THE FLOWERS ...
SACHI-KO'S BIRTH-DAY?
HUH ?
THANKS FOR COMING !
DORK
Heh Heh
ISN'T THAT SWEET ?
IT'S HER BIRTHDAY AT MID-NIGHT, SO HE WANTS TO BE THERE TO SAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY FIRST.
SHE'S AT WORK RIGHT NOW, BUT...
I HOPE SHE'S STILL ALIVE.
.....
YOU LECTURED HER.
THE PROB-LEM IS WITH NANA.
HELLO, WEL-COME !
BARF.
THEY'RE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY BEHIND OUR BACKS.
FLOW-ERS AND...
MAYBE IT'S GOOD.
THINGS HAVE TO BE THAT WAY... FOR SACHIKO.

BUT WHAT IF SHE KILLS HERSELF AFTER THAT?
I GUESS THIS SERIES WOULD END.
.....
I TOLD HER I'D TAKE HER TOMOR-ROW EVEN-ING.
SHE'S REALLY PSYCHED FOR IT, SO SHE'LL STAY ALIVE 'TIL THEN.
TOMOR-ROW IS HER ROOM-MATE'S SHOW!
SHE'LL BE FINE!
FOOSH...
EPSON
SO THEN...
...I GOT SO EMOTIONAL, I STARTED CRYING.

EEK
EEK
EEK
I COULD JUST DIE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I GET TO SEE TAKUMI UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL!
.....
I GOT FRONT-ROW SEATS!
FRONT-ROW SEATS TO THE TRAPNEST CONCERT!
DO YOU WANNA GO?
HEY JUN, IF NANA CAN'T GO WITH ME...
WELL, THAT'S GOOD...
I CAN'T DIE YET!
IF I DIED, I WOULDN'T GET TO SEE HIM!
BUT WAIT!
OH!
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT NANA SAID!
YOU'RE NO FUN!
COME ON, GO WITH HER.
THOUGH IT'S STRONG.
I DON'T LIKE THE SINGER'S SCREECHY VOICE.
THOSE ARE GREAT SEATS, BUT I'M NOT INTO TRAP-NEST.
NAH...

IDEA HALL. ♡
SHE'S ALL, "I'LL GO IF I FEEL LIKE IT."
AND THE CLUB'S KINDA FAR, SO SHE SAID, "IT'S NOT WORTH IT."
HOW FAR?
WHERE IS IT?
IDEA HALL...
LIKE THE ONE BACK HOME?
YEAH! ♡
WHAT THE ...?
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST BUY TICKETS FOR THE SHOW HERE?!

BUT WITH THE SHOW BACK HOME, I GOT TWO TICKETS RIGHT NEXT TO EACH OTHER. ♡
I KNEW I'D GET CLOSER SEATS THAN IN AN ARENA IN TOKYO. ♡
WELL, I DON'T WANNA GO. IT'S NOT WORTH IT.
....

'CAUSE WHEN I BOUGHT THE TICKETS, I WASN'T SURE I'D BE IN TOKYO...
...AND TRAPNEST IS SO POPULAR IN TOKYO THAT EVEN FAN CLUB MEMBERS HAVE TO WIN A LOTTERY TO GET TICKETS.
IF I LOST THE LOTTERY, I'D CRY.

I'LL NEVER LOVE AGAIN.
I DON'T WANT A BOY-FRIEND.
BUT...
DO YOU REALLY WANNA MAKE HER DO THINGS WITH YOU?
WHY DON'T YOU SNAG SOME GUY WHO LIKES TRAPNEST TO GO WITH YOU?
LIKE ON A DATE.
DO IT, NANA!
YEAH...
YOU CAN GET A BOYFRIEND AND GO TO THE CONCERT AT THE SAME TIME.
TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE!
Ba Ha Ha Ha
WORK ON THE FARM?!
REAL NICE!
YEAH, AND DO WHAT?!
THEN YOU COULD TAKE A NICE TRIP HOME!
WHY NOT?
SHE WAS NICE ENOUGH TODAY TO LEND ME THIS JEWELRY.
SHE TALKS TOUGH, BUT SHE'S SWEET INSIDE.
I BET I CAN GET HER TO GO WITH ME.
I'LL JUST ASK NANA AGAIN.
WELL— FINE.

Hummm
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
IF YOU TAKE LOVE AWAY FROM NANA, WHAT'S LEFT?
BESIDES, I HAVE NANA. ♡
WITH NANA, I'M NEVER LONELY.
WE'RE BOTH GIRLS AND CAN JUST BE OURSELVES AROUND EACH OTHER.
AND WE DON'T GET ALL JEALOUS.
WE ALWAYS HAVE EACH OTHER, AND IT'S COMFORTABLE.
COMPARED TO THAT, LOVE...
...IS EXHAUSTING AND PAINFUL.
AND IT NEVER LASTS.
I'M OVER IT.

...BUT I WANT THE PERFECT GUY.
DRINK TICKET
I DON'T WANT A BOY-FRIEND ...
...THAT GUY DOESN'T EXIST.
OF COURSE I KNOW ...
IS IT ALL HARD-CORE?
WELL, THAT'S OBVIOUS!
"PUNK NIGHT" ?
WHAT KIND OF SHOW IS THIS ?!
IT'S LOUD ENOUGH.
I BET NANA'S BAND IS ON NEXT.
WE GOTTA PUSH UP FRONT!
WE SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN HERE EARLIER.
MAN, IT'S PACKED !
BUT I GOTTA GET UP FRONT ...
IT'S TOO LOUD IN HERE!

SQUEEZE
SMACK
HEY! NANA! WHAT ABOUT YOUR DRINK?
I DON'T WANT IT!
I'D JUST SPILL IT!
WOO HOO!
....
....
I CAN'T GET UP THERE!
I HATE THIS!
Oi
Oi
Oi
Oi
I CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS ...
DOES THE BASSIST EVEN PLAY?!
WHAT IS THIS CRAP?
HUH?

gab
gab
THEY'RE DONE ?
TOKYO ... YOU ROCK!
WOO HO O!
WHAT A CRO-MAG ...
THAT SINGER'S SO GNARLY !
ALL RIGHT!
I'M GOING UP FRONT !
SHE'S NEXT !
ALL RIGHT !
GUITAR
WHO ARE THEY?
THE BLACK STONES ?
SHOULD WE WATCH THE NEXT BAND?
THE GOOD BAND PLAYED. LET'S SPLIT!
mumble
mumble
LET'S GO GRAB A SMOKE.
LET'S GET A DRINK ...
Ah Ha
HOW LAME.
"BLAST" FOR SHORT ?!
EARE
SHUT UP!

EVERY-
BODY
WAIT!
COME
BACK!
WHAT
THE...?
HEY,
WAIT!
...IS,
LIKE,
THE BEST
BAND
IN THE
WORLD!
big mouth
YA
WANNA
KNOW
WHAT
?
THIS
NEXT
BAND
...
.....

HUH?
WHAT?
I TOTALLY AGREE!
DOESN'T BLAST JUST TOTALLY RULE?!
HUH?
WHAT A CUTE GIRL... ♡
HER VOICE IS SO STRONG AND BEAUTIFUL!
THE SINGER, NANA, IS AMAZ-ING!
AND EVEN LOUDER THAN I AM...
WOW, SHE'S HYPER...
SURE!
HMM... WANNA STAY?
IT'S THEIR FIRST SHOW IN TOKYO, BUT THEY'RE BIG BACK HOME!
THE DRUMMER AND GUITAR PLAYER ALSO ROCK.
BUT IF THEY SUCK, LET'S THROW BEER AT THEM.
Hee hee
....
JUST THE SINGER.
WELL, NO...
SOOO...
THE NEXT BAND IS ALL GIRLS?

WHAT'S HER DEAL ?!
.....
NO WAY THAT'S REAL!
NO, IT'S JUST MY HAIR.
HEY, GOLDILOCKS, YOUR HAIR'S CUTE. ARE THEY EXTENSIONS ?
.....
YEAH, LET'S CHECK 'EM OUT.
OH. REALLY?
I HEAR THE NEXT BAND'S GOOD.
HEY, GUYS !
THEY ALL CAME BACK ...
blah
blah
WOW... THE CROWD...
LET'S GO BACK IN!
THE NEXT BAND'S SUPPOSED TO BE AMAZING!
HEY, GUYS !
...IF THEY SUCK, THERE'S GONNA BE TROUBLE.
I DON'T KNOW, BUT...
WHAT'S GOING ON ?
LIKE A BLOOD-BATH...
pitter pat
.....

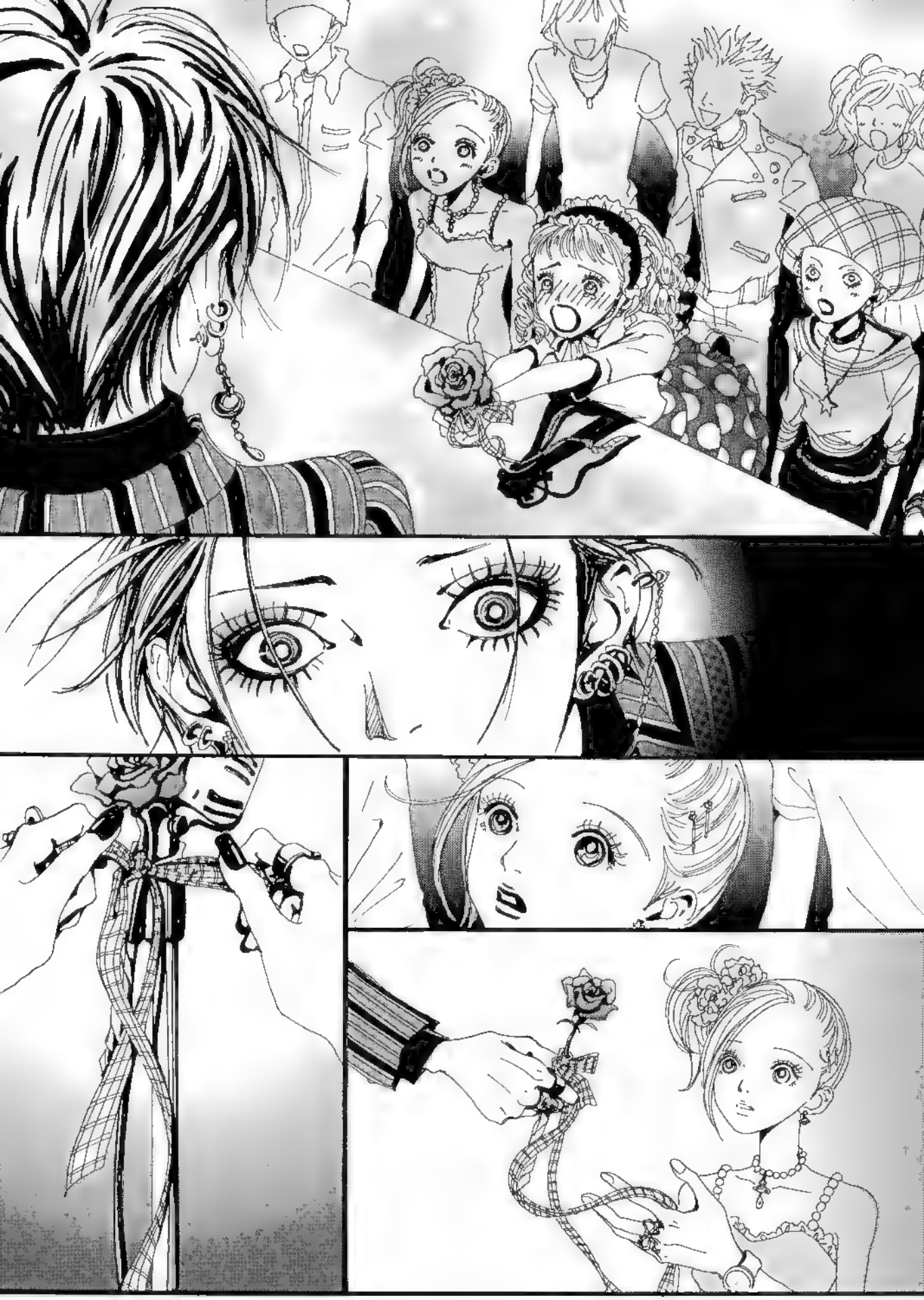
THUMP
THUMP
THEY'RE ON!
OH!
WOW ...

MY HEART ...
I'M FREAK-ING OUT.
I CAN'T DEAL.
OH, MAN ...
....
IS GONNA EXPLODE!

FU
CAN THEY ROCK ?
WELL ...
HM ...
.....
WHAT REALLY MATTERS IS...
CRAZY, SEXY, COOL.
TAKE YOUR PICK!
HEY ...
CHECK IT OUT.
THEY'RE PRETTY HOT, HUH?

WHAT THE ...?
HUH ?
THE FLOOR ...
...IT'S SHAKING!
YEAH!

NANA!!



HELLO, TOKYO!
WE'RE BLAST!
SHE WAS A PRETTY BIG DEAL BACK HOME...
LOTS OF CRAZY FANS AND STUFF.

WHEN LIFE HAS ABANDONED YOU...
THE BEST YOU CAN DO IS JUST GET UP...
ALWAYS STRUGGLE TO STAND TALL...
ONLY NANA SINGS SONGS LIKE THAT.
I'M GONNA CRY.

DON'T RUN AWAY, NANA.
THAT'S WHAT I'M FEELING...

WOW! I WAS BLOWN AWAY!
YOU GUYS ARE LIKE A REAL BAND!
ALL THE OTHER BANDS WERE TOTAL AMA-TEURS.
YEAH, YOU SOUNDED SO... WHAT CAN I SAY?
THERE'S SOME-THING SO RAW AND REAL WHEN YOU'RE ON STAGE...
ANY-WAY ... IT RULED !
WELL, YA LOOK PRETTY COOL UNTIL YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH. GOOD THING YOU KEPT IT SHUT ON STAGE.
THAT WOULDA BLOWN IT.
NOBU ACTS LIKE A CHILD.
SO MATURE ...
OH, I THOUGHT YOU WERE YASU'S AGE.
HUH ?
WE'RE THE SAME AGE.
DON'T GIMME THAT "MISTER" CRAP!
I'M SO GLAD WE AGREE! YOU'RE MY NEW BEST FRIENDS!
THANKS SO MUCH, MR. KYOSUKE AND MS. JUNKO!
Ah Ha Ha

WE'RE LOW ON PLATES, SO JUST PUT IT OUT LIKE THAT.
OH ...
OKAY ...
NO FAIR!
YOUR FACE IS PERFECT!
HIS SUN-GLASSES LOOK FAB ON YOU!
NO WAY! THEY'RE KYOSUKE'S ...
GIVE 'EM TO ME! ♡
THESE ARE COOL, JUNKO.
UM, MS. KOMATSU ...
DO YOU HAVE ANY SERVING PLATES?
SQUEEZE
OH, Misato! ♡
IT'S COOL, IT'S COOL.
...
BUT ...
LET'S GO HANG OUT WITH EVERY-ONE IN THERE AND LET HACHI DO THE REST.
I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT SOMETHING LIGHT AFTER THE SHOW.
OH, JUST A SALAD.
YUM!
YOU'RE A GIRL AFTER MY OWN HEART! ♡
WHAT DID YOU MAKE?
.....

I'M SURPRISED SHE KNEW ABOUT THIS SHOW.
WELL...
YOU GUYS ALREADY HAVE A SUPER FAN!
DUDE!
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY TO TOKYO JUST FOR THEIR SHOW?
DAMN, GIRL!
WOW...
YOU LOOK SO CUTE IN THAT APRON! ♡
SHIN, YOU...
THAT'S MY APRON!
WE WERE JUST FILLER FOR SOME BAND THAT CANCELLED.
MOVE IT, NOBU!
WE NEED MORE CHAIRS.
WHERE IS MY CHAIR?!
NANA CALLED AND TOLD ME!
!
I JUST TOLD HER ABOUT THE SHOW.
I DIDN'T THINK SHE'D REALLY COME.
SHE DID?
OH, IS THERE A PROBLEM?
NO, NOT AT ALL.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.
JOIN US... ♡
"IS THERE A PROBLEM?" WHATEVER!
SO ANNOYING.

MAYBE I'M WEIRD.
.....
TWO GIRLS? HMMM...
SHE WAS CRYING AT THE SHOW.
DOES SHE LIKE NANA ?
THANKS FOR A GREAT SHOW!
LATER DAYS!
ALL RIGHT YOU GUYS...
BUT WHY AM I JEALOUS?
WEIRD...
WE SHOULD JUST LET NOBU STAY HERE.
HEY, NANA ...
HOW OLD ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
SLOW DOWN!
YEAH, AND YOU'RE AN ALCOHOLIC!
NOBU'S A TOTAL LIGHT-WEIGHT.
WHA...?
NOOOO! I FEEL SICK.
YO, NOBU. GET UP!
WE'RE SPLIT-TIN'.
WHY DON'T I EVER GET DRUNK?
IT SUCKS.
I'M GONNA GO NOW...
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
UM ...
I'M DRUNK, TOO.
YEAH ...
FINE, WHAT-EVER.
clunk

CANCEL YOUR RESER-VATION AND JUST STAY HERE.
GOOD... I THOUGHT SHE WAS TRYING TO CRASH HERE.
OKAY. I CAN TAKE YOU THERE IN A CAB.
I RESERVED A HOTEL ROOM NEAR TOKYO STATION ...
MISATO, WHERE ARE YOU GOING ?
WHAT ?
MISATO'S NOT SAFE AROUND YOU!
YOU'RE OUTTA HERE!
NOBU !
NO PROB-LEM.
I ALREADY CHECKED IN...
OH NO, THAT'S ALL RIGHT...
YEAH, WHY NOT ?
YOU'RE ALREADY HERE.
NO FAIR!
THEN I CAN CRASH AT NOBU'S. ♡
.....
glug glug
Boing
I CAN'T SLEEP !

SO, NANA...
...MAYBE SHE'S NOT A LESBIAN ...
WHAT IF MISATO LIKES GIRLS?
BUT SHE KISSES GIRLS ...
WHAT IF SOME-THING HAPPENS TONIGHT?
AND NANA'S DRUNK!
SHE'S ONLY THAT NICE WHEN SHE'S DRUNK.
BUT TWO GIRLS DOING IT?
HOW DOES THAT WORK?
I GUESS NANA WOULD BE ON TOP..
hmmm
hmmm
hmmm
hmmm
NO!
I'M FANTASIZING ABOUT MY ROOMMATE!
I GOTTA GET A BOY-FRIEND!
JUMP

ROMANCE IS POINT-LESS.
I WISH YOU COULD JUST BUY ONE.
BUT HUNTING FOR GUYS IS SUCH A DRAG.
THAT'S WHY I ACT STUPID AND WASTE MY ENERGY ...AND THINGS NEVER WORK OUT, ANYWAY.
LOVE JUST DRIVES ME CRAZY.
I JUST NEED SOME GUY TO GET OFF WITH!
THAT'S WHY I'M GETTING ALL FREAKY!
AND SOON!
I JUST NEED TO GET LAID!
WITH MR. ASANO...
WITH SHOJI...
ESPE-CIALLY HIS FACE...
BUT I THOUGHT I LOVED HIM...
I CAN HARDLY EVEN REMEMBER HIS FACE!

I CAN ONLY THINK ABOUT TOMORROW.

I JUST WANNA FORGET EVERY-THING.

...THINK ABOUT SHOJI NOW.

I DON'T WANNA...

WILL THERE EVER BE A RIGHT PLACE FOR ME?

THAT OFFICE IS TOO UPTIGHT.

I GOTTA GET ANOTHER JOB, SO I CAN QUIT THAT HELL-HOLE.

BUT AT WORK, I KNOW MS. SAKAGAMI IS JUST GONNA CALL ME A LOSER EVERY DAY.

YOU'RE JUST SO SLOW!

I WISH I WAS WORKING TOMORROW...

...SO I WOULDN'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT ANYTHING.

Good morning!
I went to Disneyland with Misato.
Don't get too jealous!
Ah ha ha ha!
chirp chirp
.....
I'M JEALOUS OF NANA.
I SHOULD GO SOME-WHERE.
I WANNA GO TO DISNEY-LAND!
AND TAKE PICTURES WITH MICKEY MOUSE!
WHY DIDN'T SHE INVITE ME, TOO?!

I'LL BUY WHATEVER I WANT— LIKE LOTSA CLOTHES!
YEAH!
I'LL GO SHOPPING!
BUT I'M TOTALLY BROKE.
I PUT THE ¥300,000 MOM GAVE ME IN A TIME DEPOSIT.
BUT THE RATE SUCKS.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT.
I DON'T CARE ABOUT A HOUSE WITH A GARDEN ANYMORE.
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
I'M GOING HOME!
I PUT ON A HOT OUTFIT FOR THIS?!
SIGH
NO ONE EVEN CHECKED ME OUT.
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY LOVEBIRDS ALL OVER THE PLACE?
KIDS THESE DAYS... GET A ROOM!
GRRR...
SO ANYWAY ...

I ALWAYS KNOW PEOPLE THERE!
I KNOW!
I'LL GO TO JACK-SON! ♡
IT'S ALMOST 7.
WHAT A WASTE OF A DAY...
I'M HUNGRY.
WHAT SHOULD I DO FOR DINNER?
...HANGS OUT THERE, TOO.
BUT SHOJI...
COOL!
OH,
BEEF IS ON SALE TODAY.
HAM-BURGERS TONIGHT!
SAVE MONEY.
SAVE MONEY.
I'LL GET GROCERIES AND MAKE SOME-THING AT HOME.
OH, FORGET IT.
NANA WILL PROB-ABLY BE HOME SOON.
SHE MUST BE TAKING THE TRAIN HOME NOW.
MISATO'S IN HIGH SCHOOL, SO SHE'S GOT CLASS TOMORROW...

DOES SHE LIVE NEAR HERE?
SHE'S GONNA COOK ...
OR MAYBE ...
...FOR SHOJI...
WHY DO I HAVE TO RUN INTO HER HERE?!
...AT HIS PLACE!

YOU'RE BACK!
AND JUST IN TIME!
I MADE DINNER! ♡
OH ...
HACHI, YOU'RE HOME.
WHERE WERE YOU?
LOOK!
NANA BOUGHT THIS FOR ME! ♡
ISN'T SHE CUTE?! ♡
matching♡
EVERYONE I LOVE IS BEING TAKEN AWAY FROM ME!
I CAN'T LOSE NANA, TOO...
IS SHE STAYING OVER TONIGHT, TOO?!

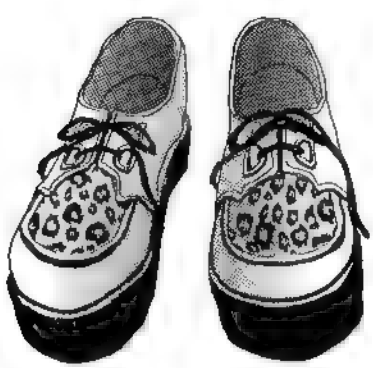
I LIVE HERE TOO, YA KNOW!
YOU CAN'T JUST DO WHAT-EVER YOU WANT!
...I THOUGHT NANA'D BE PISSED ...
... BUT SHE LOOKED LIKE A SCOLD-ED CHILD.
THIS TIME ...

IT BREAKS MY HEART TO THINK ABOUT IT.

IF ONLY I'D BEEN MORE MATURE BACK THEN...

...AND REALIZED WHAT YOUR WEAKNESSES WERE...

...WOULD THINGS HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT NOW?

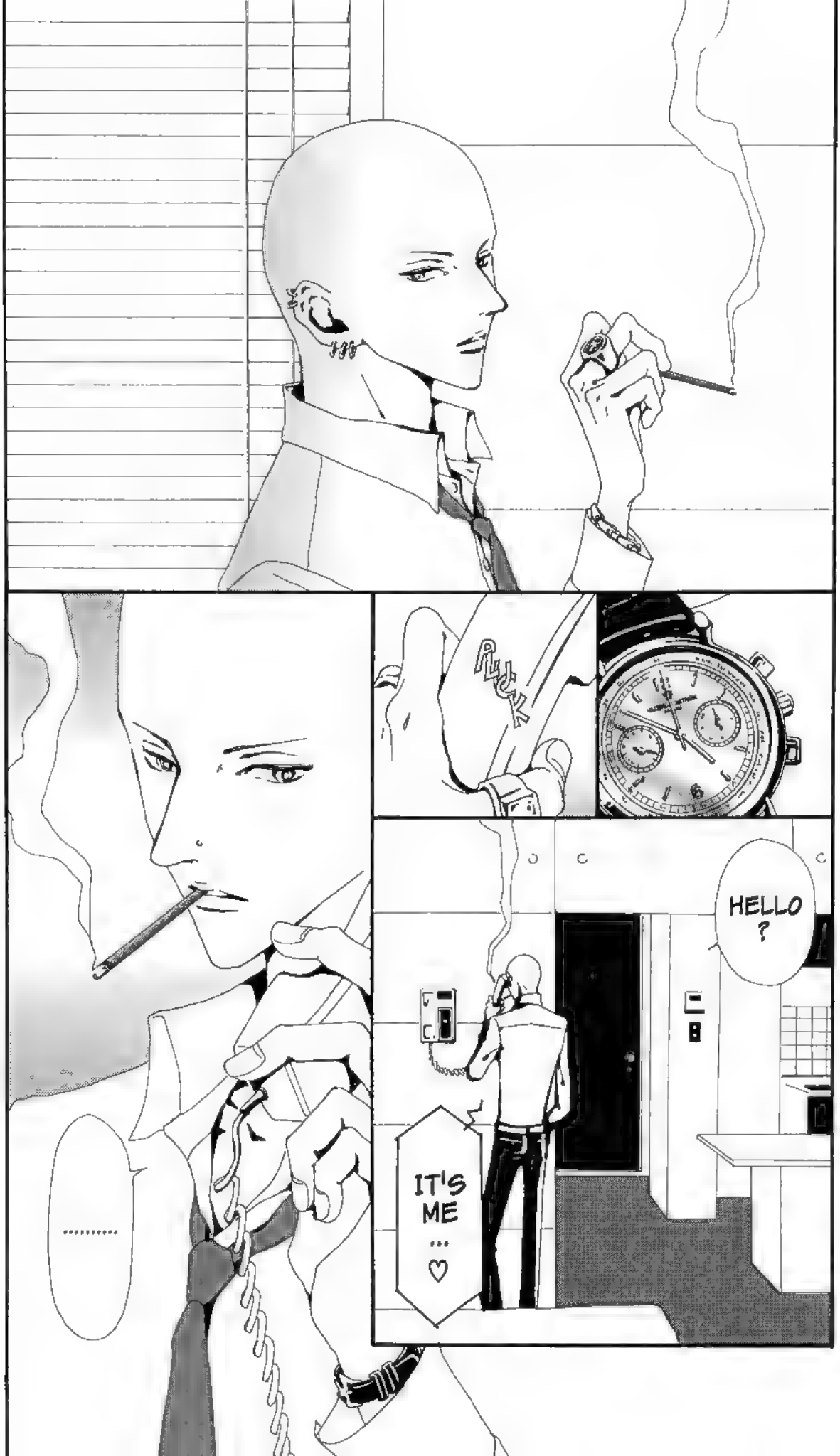


THAT NIGHT, WITHOUT A WORD, NANA LEFT THE ROOM LEADING MISATO BY THE HAND...
...AND DIDN'T RETURN UNTIL MORN-ING.

BLACK ST

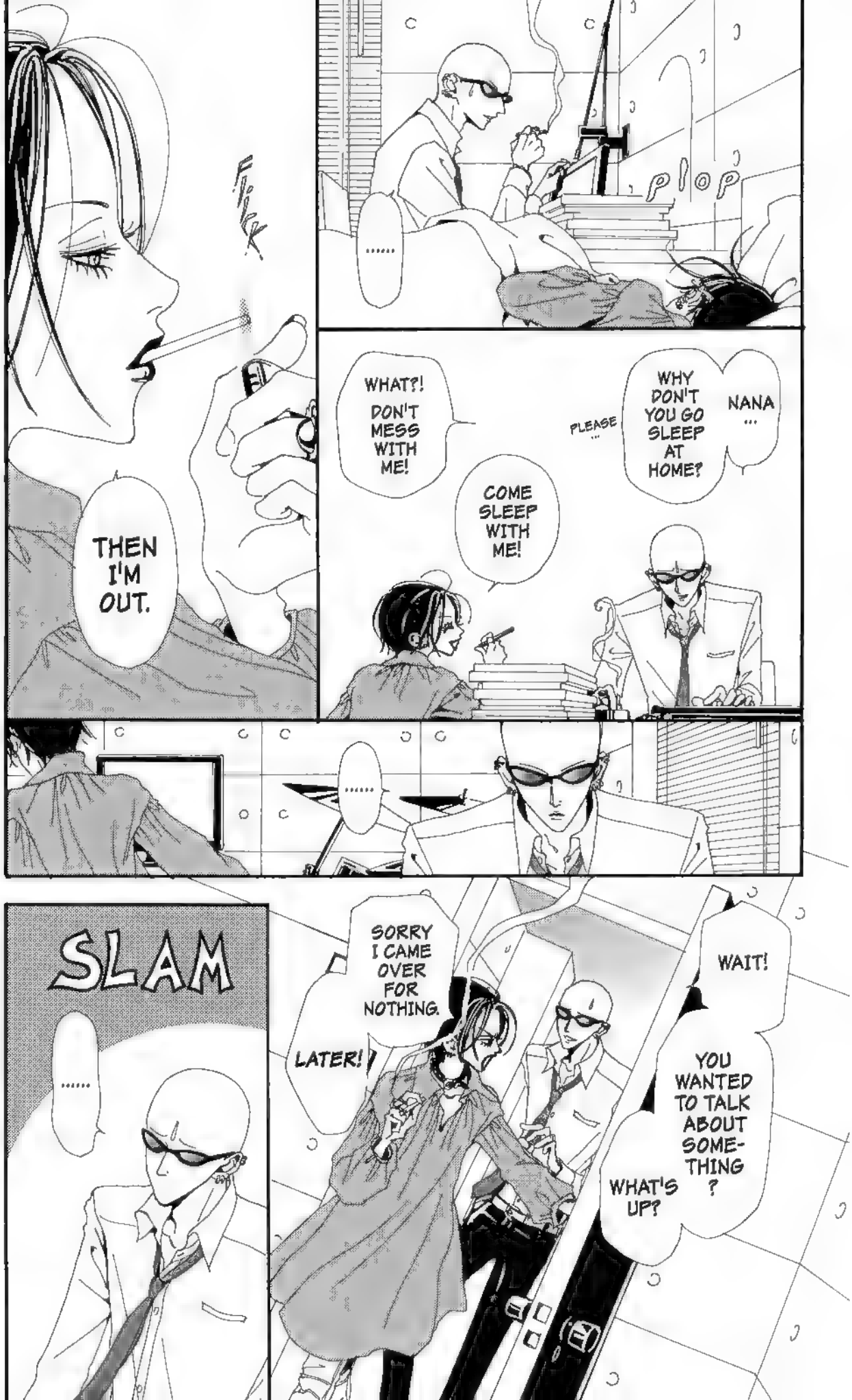
NANA
ナナ
Chapter 11

flick
click
click
Blast
Ring ring


HELLO ?
IT'S ME ... ♡
.....

IT'S STILL DARK OUT!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE SO EARLY IN THE MORNING?
WHAT ABOUT YOU?
YOU GOING TO WORK NOW?
YOU'RE TOTALLY DRESSED.
Seven Stars
Crash!
WHAT WORK?
YOUR LAWYER LIFE'S GOTTA SUCK.
IT'S A FOUR-DAY WEEKEND!
WHEN DO YOU SLEEP?
HUH?
OH...
I HAD TO DO WORK WHEN I GOT HOME...
SO WHY'D YOU COME OVER?
I'M COMING IN!
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO...
BUT THEN I GOTTA WORK SOME MORE.

WE WERE KICKIN' IT IN MISATO'S HOTEL ROOM...
...BUT A SINGLE BED'S TOO SMALL FOR TWO.
WHAT?
SHE'S STILL IN TOWN?
WHAT ABOUT SCHOOL?
WELL, IT'S A GIRLS' SCHOOL, SHE HAS NO FRIENDS, SO SHE DOESN'T WANT TO GO.
Ha Ha
BUT I BET HER FOLKS WORRY.
SHE LOOKS LIKE A RICH KID.
BUT THEY DON'T SEEM TO CARE.
SHE TALKS LIKE SHIN...
I BET SHE'LL RUN AWAY FROM HOME SOMEDAY.
HE'S KIND OF A LOST CAUSE.
HE'S BEEN LOOKING KINDA HARSH LATELY.
I HOPE HE'S NOT SHOOTING UP OR ANY-THING.
YEAH... SHIN...
SPEAK-ING OF HARSH, YASU...
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT...
...YOU LOOK EVEN MORE EVIL WITH YOUR SUN-GLASSES OFF.
WHY IS THAT?
SHUT UP, NANA!
GIMME A BREAK!
Ba Ha Ha
WHAT'RE YA HIDIN'?
WELL, YA CERTAINLY DON'T LOOK LIKE A LAWYER!
Ha Ha Ha
SLIDE


plop
.....
Flick
THEN I'M OUT.
WHAT?! DON'T MESS WITH ME!
COME SLEEP WITH ME!
PLEASE ...
WHY DON'T YOU GO SLEEP AT HOME?
NANA ...
.....
SLAM
.....
SORRY I CAME OVER FOR NOTHING.
LATER!
WAIT!
YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING?
WHAT'S UP?

flop
FLICK

NANA!
ZIP
SHOVE

I GOTTA WORK TODAY ...
SO I GOTTA SLEEP A LITTLE.
BUT I COULDN'T SLEEP AT ALL LAST NIGHT.
EW... GROSS...
YUCK...
ALL MY MAKE-UP SUCKS.
click
flip
creak
NANA!

I...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO YELL AT YOU...
I WAS TIRED AND CONFUSED AND IN A BAD MOOD.
I'M SO SORRY!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO TAKE IT OUT ON YOU.
I'M REALLY SORRY.
ARE YOU MAD AT ME?
NOT REALLY ...
I WAS BEING SELFISH AND INCONSID-ERATE, JUST LIKE YOU SAID.

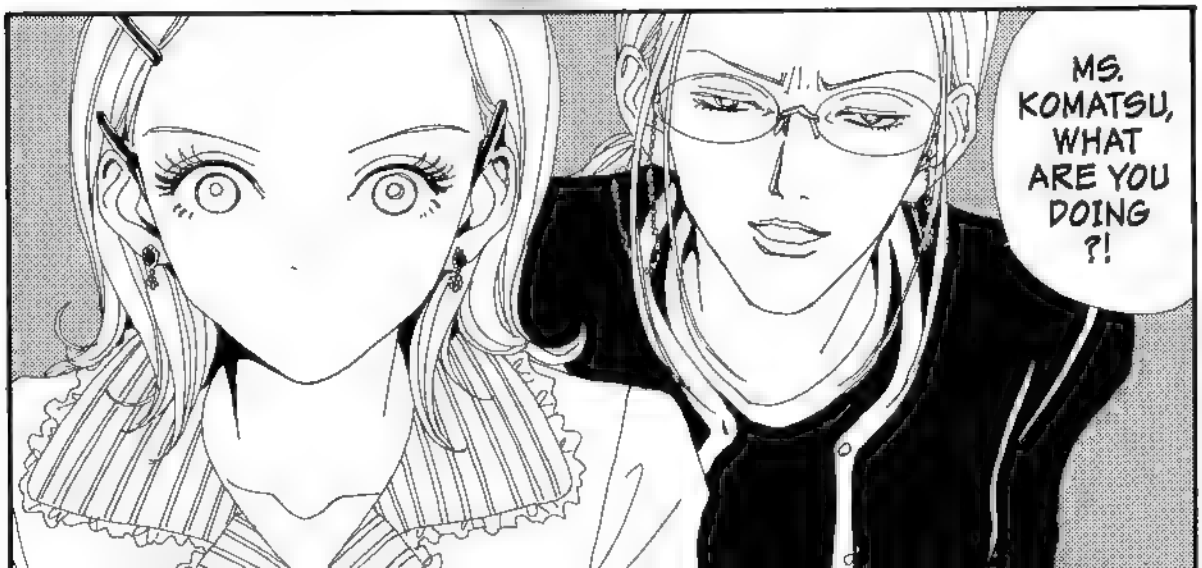
Waa
.....
I WAS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU— I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO! I FELT SO BAD, I COULDN'T SLEEP...
THEN WHY DID YOU STAY OUT ALL NIGHT ?!
YOU'RE WAY MORE IMPORTANT THAN A BOY-FRIEND, NANA!
I'm NOT your boy-friend!
SHE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING WRONG.
WELL, I'M SURE MISATO THOUGHT I WAS BEING A TOTAL JERK.
ABOUT WHAT ?
SHE WAS HAVING SO MUCH FUN, AND I RUINED IT.
I SHOULD APOLO-GIZE.
SO WHERE'D MISATO GO?
....
DID SHE FINALLY GO HOME?
NO, SHE'S SLEEP-ING AT THE HOTEL.
SHE'LL TAKE THE TRAIN HOME AFTER CHECKOUT AT NOON.
OH, I FEEL SO BAD.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

DOES MISATO HAVE A CELL PHONE?
OH, YEAH ...
NO MORE OFFICE LADY OUTFITS?
IN THAT GET-UP?
WELL, YEAH ...
CAN I HAVE HER NUMBER? I'LL CALL HER ...
SIGH
THEN GO TO HER HOTEL.
BUT I GOTTA GO TO WORK TODAY, TOO.
I GOTTA GO TO WORK LATER, SO I CAN'T GO.
I GOT IT SOMEWHERE...
JUST A MINUTE ...
OKAY ...
ALL RIGHT, BUT SHE'S PROBABLY STILL ASLEEP. WAIT 'TIL NOON TO CALL HER.
THEN I'LL MAKE A SPECIAL APOLOGY DINNER! ♡
.....
SURE, I'LL BE HOME AROUND 9.
HAVE A BEAUTIFUL DAY! ♡
CAN WE GO TO DINNER TOGETHER ?
SO WHEN WILL YOU GET HOME TONIGHT ?
STOP FOLLOWING ME AROUND!

I WONDER...

...WHAT...

...SHE COOKED FOR SHOJI?



WHAT? YOU DON'T THINK BOYS NEED TO KNOW HOW TO COOK?
OUR DEMO-GRAPHIC ISN'T JUST WOMEN!
YOU'RE JUST HERE TO DO WHAT WE TELL YOU!
YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO HAVE YOUR OWN COLUMN!
DON'T TALK BACK TO ME!
Today's Recipes
COMPANY COM-PUTERS ARE FOR WORK ONLY!
... LIKE A RECIPE CORNER OR SOME-THING.
I WAS CONTEM-PLATING A NEW COLUMN...
BUT MS. SAKA-GAMI!
WELL, I GUESS I AM, BUT STILL...
TREAT ME LIKE THEIR SERVANT...
HUMPH!
SCREW YOU!
I GOTTA QUIT THIS JOINT.
ROCK ON JAPON
TRAPNEST
Their first national tour!
540YEN 5
NOW WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
OUT TO LUNCH!

BUT I GOTTA FIND A NEW JOB BEFORE I CAN QUIT.
OR NANA WILL THROW ME OUT.
AND WE JUST MADE UP...
OH!
I ALMOST FOR-GOT!
JAPON
ROCK ON
ROCK ON JAPON
I GOTTA CALL MISATO!
UM...
HELLO?
HI. IS THIS MISATO?
THIS IS...
NANA KOMATSU.
0907X6
?

OH...
NANA ...
HOW ARE YOU ?
I'M SORRY IF I WAS IN THE WAY OR ANY-THING.
NO, NO.
I'M THE ONE WHO'S SORRY.
I CALLED TO APOLOGIZE ABOUT LAST NIGHT.
.....
I'M REALLY SORRY.
I WAS IN A BAD MOOD LAST NIGHT.
UM ...
PLEASE COME VISIT ANY-TIME.
I THINK NANA AND THE BAND WOULD BE HAPPY...
...AND WE'LL TELL YOU WHEN THERE'S ANOTHER SHOW.
OKAY ...
THANK YOU SO MUCH, NANA!
MISATO, WHERE ARE YOU?
I'M ON THE TRAIN GOING HOME.
I SEE ...
SORRY I DIDN'T SAY 'BYE.
OH... THAT'S TOTALLY ALL RIGHT!
JUST GETTING TO HANG OUT WITH BLAST...
...AND TALKING A LOT WITH NANA.
I WAS SO HAPPY, I COULD JUST DIE!
I FEEL LIKE I'M STILL DREAM-ING.

Ah Ha Ha
YOU'RE SO FUNNY!
NO, REALLY!
I'VE BEEN INTO THEM SINCE THE BEGIN-NING.
BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I GOT TO HANG OUT WITH THEM. IT'S AMAZING!
OH...
REALLY? SINCE THE BEGIN-NING?
WHEN WAS THAT?
UM...
WELL, BACK WHEN REN WAS IN THE BAND.
SO, LIKE FOUR YEARS AGO?
WHEN REN WAS IN THE BAND?
NO, IT COULDN'T BE THAT REN!
OH... REALLY?
YEAH, IT WAS A BIG DEAL WHEN REN LEFT BLAST.
BUT DON'T YOU THINK SHIN PLAYS JUST LIKE REN?
SO THIS SHOW WAS LIKE THE OLD BLAST AGAIN— TOTALLY AMAZING.
THUMP

WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE BASS PLAYER?
OH...REN HONJO!
YOUR STYLE'S EASY TO SING TO...
THUMP
SOON I'LL GET TO SEE TRAPNEST PLAY BACK HOME.
THUMP
THUMP
YEAH, AND GUESS WHAT!
THUMP
I'M SO PSYCHED I'LL GET TO SEE REN LIVE.
IT'S BEEN SO LONG!
ROCK ON JAPO
JAP

SO WHAT'S UP WITH THE LOTUS BLOSSOM?
WELL, ACTUALLY...
IT'S A REN FLOWER.

NO WAY...
TRY TO THINK.
CALM DOWN.
BUT THEN, WHY...
CAN IT BE TRUE ?
ACCORD-ING TO MISATO.
... USED TO BE THE BASSIST IN BLAST ...
REN FROM TRAP-NEST ...

WHY KEEP IT A SECRET?
...THEY NEVER SAID ANY-THING.
WHEN SHIN OR I TALKED ABOUT REN...
...EVER SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT?
...DIDN'T NANA, YASU, OR NOBU ...
WHY?
AND IF NANA'S TATTOO ...
...THEN NANA AND REN MUST BE...
...IS ALL ABOUT REN...
...AN ITEM?
THAT'S WHY EVERY-ONE'S TRYING TO KEEP IT HUSH-HUSH?
THE STAR OF TRAP-NEST ...
NOW I GET IT!
REN'S A ROCK STAR!
THEY ARE JUST TOO COOL!
THEY'RE PERFECT TOGETHER!
squirt

NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE!
THE WAY YASU'S SO STRANGELY STOIC...
THE WAY NANA NEVER TALKS ABOUT HERSELF...
NANA GOES OUT AT NIGHT, SAYING SHE'S WORKING...
... BUT IS SHE REALLY HOOKING UP WITH REN ?!
SHE SAYS SHE'S GOING TO WORK, BUT SHE'S ALL DOLLED UP IN VIVIENNE.
IT'S GOTTA BE!
I WONDER !
huff, huff,
I GOTTA GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!
I CAN'T GO BACK TO WORK!
I CAN'T THINK!
WHAT SHOULD I DO ?!
AND SHE DOESN'T HAVE A CELL...
05/07 [M] 01:16 pm
BUT NANA WON'T BE HOME 'TIL 9...
OOOH— WHAT SHOULD I DOOOO ?!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GONNA SELL IT TO SOME RAG OR ANYTHING...
I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT THE DIRT!
C'MON, NOBU! YOU CAN TELL ME!
NO, IT'S NOT THAT, HACHI. IT'S JUST THAT...
.....
WELL, I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD SAY ANY-THING...
Hee hee
Blast
Don't you call me Hachi!
WELL, IT'S 'CAUSE I ALREADY KNEW.
YOU KNOW YOU WOR-SHIP REN!
SO WHY ARE YOU BEING SO DAMN SMUG?!
YOU PO-SEUR!
AND F.Y.I., SMOKING STUNTS YOUR GROWTH!
DON'T LAUGH...
SHUT UP, SHIN!

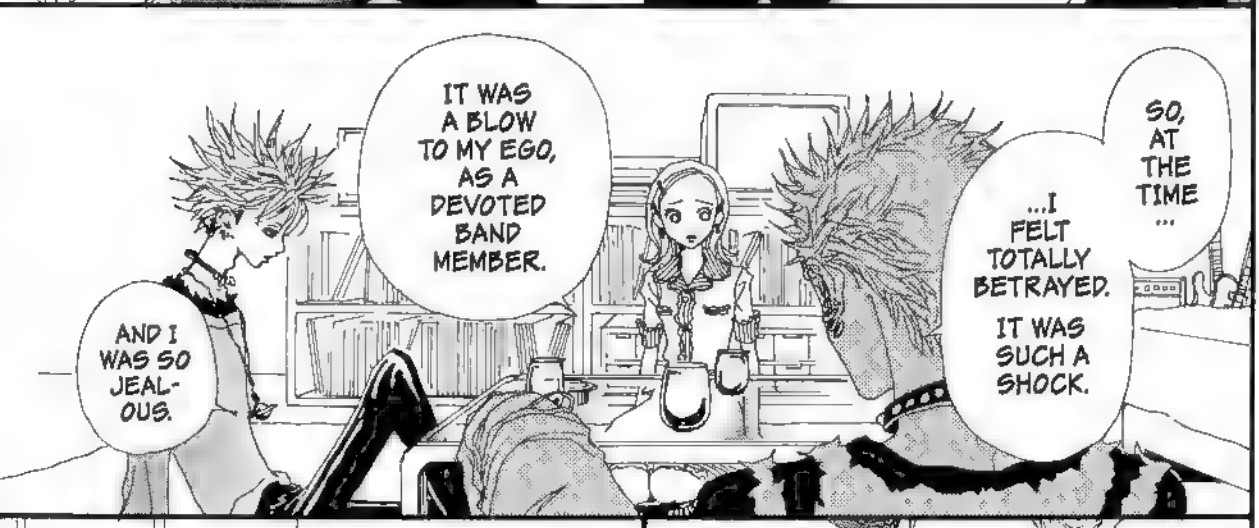
WHAT !?
NO ...
YOU TOLD ME ONE NIGHT WHEN YOU WERE DRUNK, NOBU.
YOU DON'T REMEMBER?
HOW ?!
SO THAT'S WHY YOU JOINED THE BAND?!
TRYING TO BE LIKE REN?
That's messed up!
It was all a dirty plot ?!
I REALLY GOT IT ALL WRONG WITH SHIN.
UM ... NO ...
WHEN?!
DUNNO. I FORGOT.
RIGHT AFTER I JOINED BLAST.
BEFORE YASU CAME BACK.
BUT SHIN ...
...IF YOU KNEW, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?!
NO FAIR!

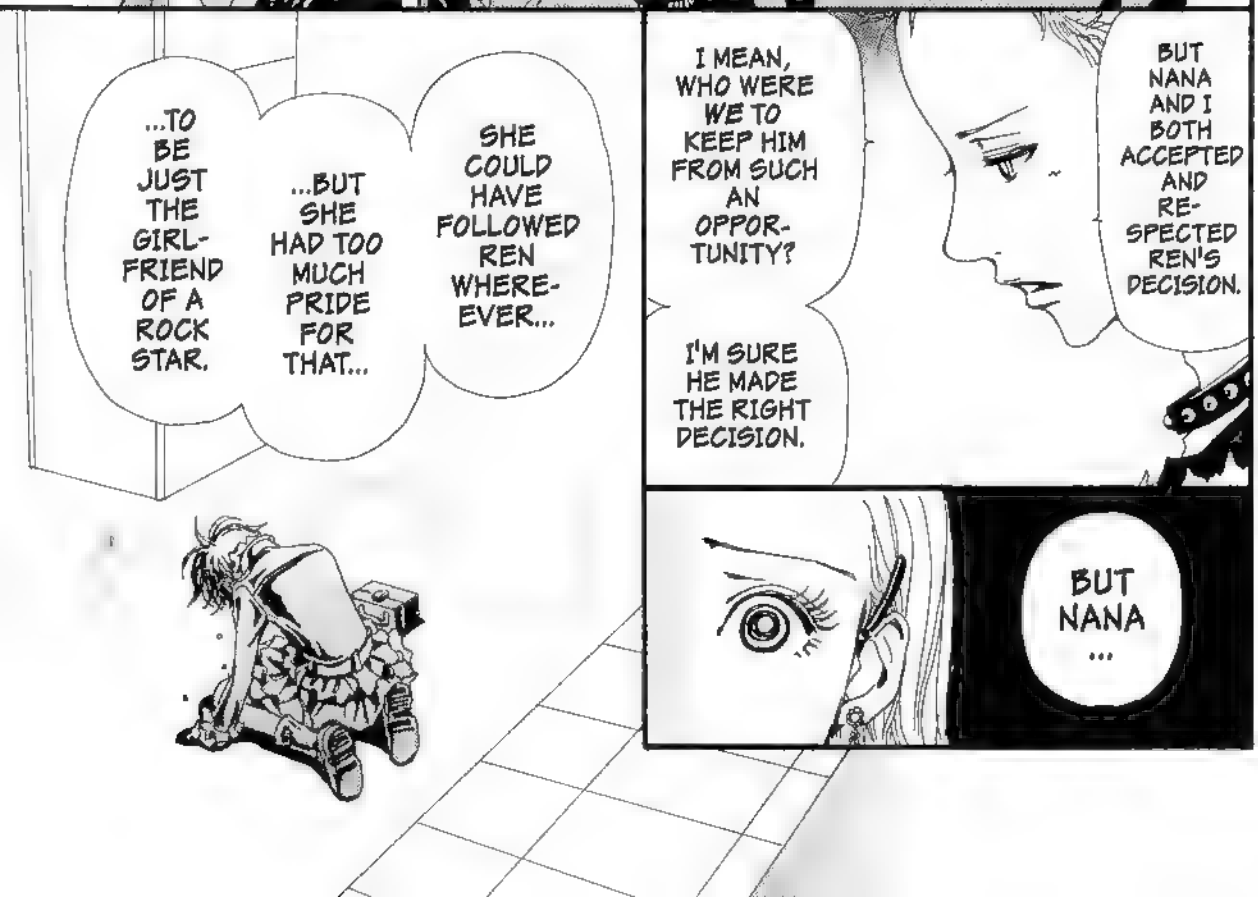
I JUST ALWAYS FREAK OUT...
THERE'S NO WAY I COULDA KEPT THAT SECRET.
THAT'S VERY MATURE, SHIN.
I'M THE WORST ...
I GOTTA QUIT DRINK-ING.
BAD THINGS HAPPEN WHEN I'M DRUNK.
Perrier
SO I THOUGHT IT'D BE BETTER IF I JUST KEPT MY MOUTH SHUT.
WELL, 'CAUSE NO ONE EVER TALKS ABOUT REN— LIKE IT'S OFF-LIMITS.
YOU THINK I'm CUTE?!
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO CUTE, HACHI.
WHO KNOWS WHAT I SAID WHEN I WAS DRUNK ...
I'LL SPILL IT ALL NOW.
WHAT EXACTLY DID I TELL YOU?
HEY, SHIN ...
BUT I'M NOT...
SHIN! Please don't tease!
HE WAS SCOUTED TO BE THE GUITAR PLAYER FOR TRAP-NEST, SO HE SPLIT FOR TOKYO.
NO ONE'S HEARD FROM HIM SINCE.
THEN I GUESS I SAID IT ALL.
HE AND NANA HOOKED UP AND LIVED TOGETH-ER.
REN USED TO PLAY BASS IN BLAST.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE SOMEONE CALLED ME CUTE.

THAT'S ABOUT IT.
YOU GOT IT.
I'M GUESSING IT WAS A HARD BREAKUP, HUH?
WHAT ABOUT HIM AND NANA?
NO ONE'S HEARD FROM HIM?
HEY, WAIT!
A HARD BREAK-UP?
BUT YOU JUST VISITED HIM AT WORK THE OTHER DAY...
REALLY?!
YOU AND YOUR BOY-FRIEND BROKE UP?!
WHAT?!
HUH? STOPPED WORKING?
RIGHT AFTER THAT ...
WELL ...
YEAH ...
...AND YOU WORKED IT OUT.
...YOU WERE IN A LONG-DISTANCE RELATION-SHIP, HACHI...
I KNOW ...
....
BUT WHY SHOULD THEY BREAK UP JUST 'CAUSE REN MOVED TO TOKYO?
IT STOPPED WORKING WHEN I MOVED NEAR HIM.
WELL ...
YEAH ...

WELL, ENOUGH ABOUT ME...
I'LL GO OFF ABOUT IT THE NEXT TIME WE GO DRINKING.
I'M THROUGH WITH ALCOHOL ...
WHAT HAP-PENED ?
DID HE CHEAT ON YOU ?
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT REN AND NANA'S BREAKUP!
BINGO...
WHY DON'T YOU JUST ASK NANA ABOUT IT?
NO! YOU CAN'T!
....
BUT WHY NOT ?
WELL ... YOU KNOW ...
EVERY-ONE...
...HAS A SKELETON IN THEIR CLOSET.
WAS IT REALLY THAT BAD?
BUT IF THEY DIDN'T WANT TO BREAK UP...
... WEREN'T THINGS COOL UNTIL THEN?
WELL, YEAH, BUT ...
HOW CAN I PUT IT...
HMMM...

I'M NOT MAD AT REN OR ANY-THING ...
...AND I DON'T WANNA SOUND NEGA-TIVE...
...BUT REN DIDN'T DISCUSS ANY OF IT WITH NANA OR ME.
HE JUST UP AND LEFT BLAST TO JOIN TRAP-NEST.
YASU WAS THE ONLY ONE HE TOLD.


SO, AT THE TIME ...
...I FELT TOTALLY BETRAYED.
IT WAS SUCH A SHOCK.
IT WAS A BLOW TO MY EGO, AS A DEVOTED BAND MEMBER.
AND I WAS SO JEAL-OUS.


BUT NANA AND I BOTH ACCEPTED AND RE-SPECTED REN'S DECISION.
I MEAN, WHO WERE WE TO KEEP HIM FROM SUCH AN OPPOR-TUNITY?
I'M SURE HE MADE THE RIGHT DECISION.
BUT NANA ...
SHE COULD HAVE FOLLOWED REN WHERE-EVER...
...BUT SHE HAD TOO MUCH PRIDE FOR THAT...
...TO BE JUST THE GIRL-FRIEND OF A ROCK STAR.

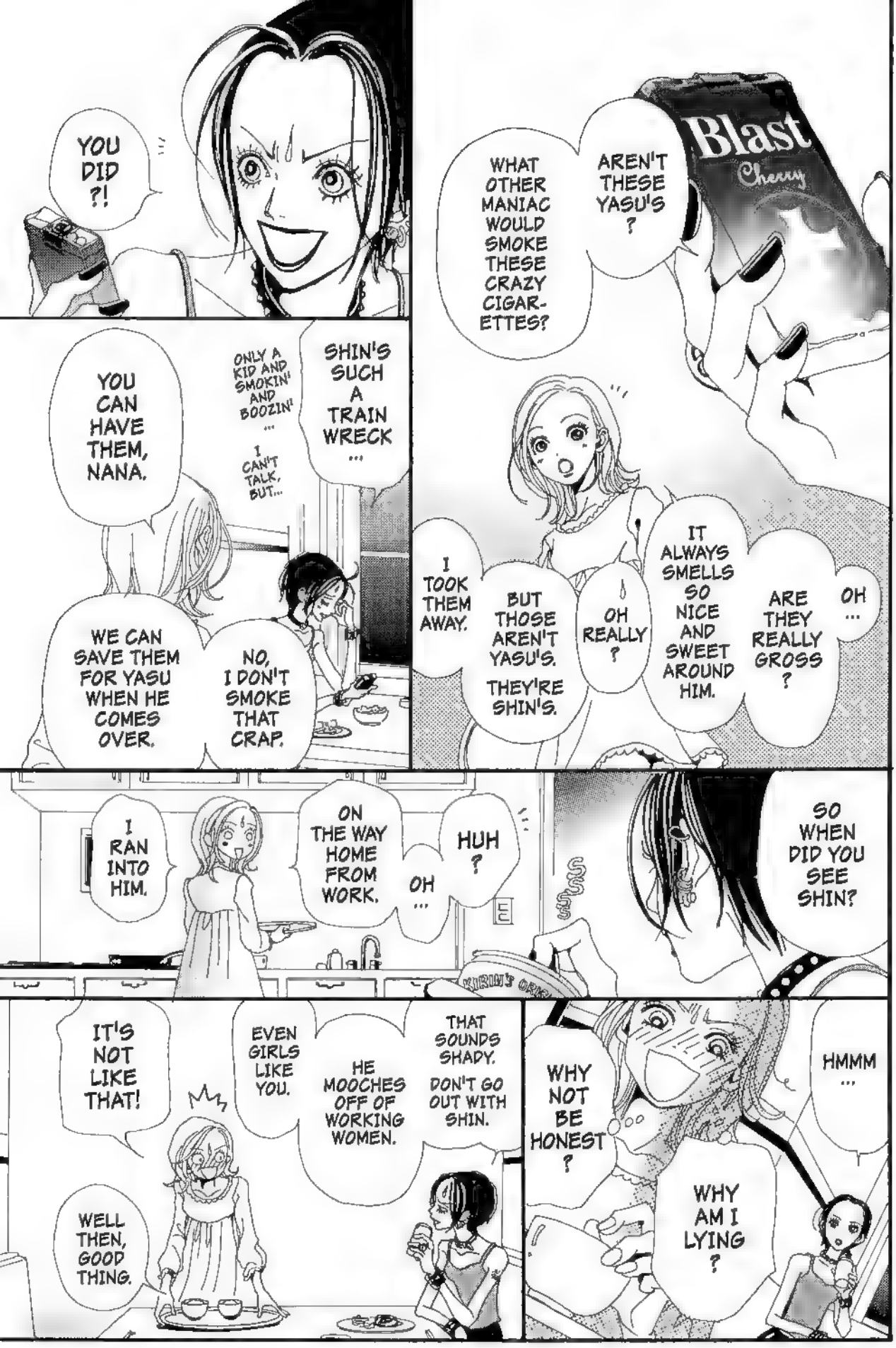
NOW NANA'S TOTALLY OBSESSED WITH SUCCEEDING AS A MUSICIAN ...
... SO THAT SHE CAN BE ...
...AS BIG AS REN AND TRAP-NEST.
SOME-TIMES IT'S HARD TO WATCH THAT STRUG-GLE.
SHIN, YOU GOTTA KICK REN'S ASS ON THE BASS!
BUT I HAVE NO IDEA IF NANA STILL LOVES REN...
STILL, BOTH YASU AND I DON'T WANNA TALK ABOUT REN IN FRONT OF HER.
IT'S NOT THAT WE MEANT TO KEEP IT A SECRET FROM YOU GUYS.

YEAH ...
OF COURSE.
BUT MAYBE JUST TRY NOT TO MENTION REN FOR NO REASON.
...DON'T HAVE TO PRETEND YOU DON'T KNOW...
SO YOU GUYS ...
...THINK I'VE ALREADY TALKED A LOT ABOUT REN IN FRONT OF NANA.
MS. KOMATSU !
BUT I...
JUST HER LUCK TO HAVE A TRAPNEST GEEK ROOMMATE...
YELL
YELL
YELL
I DIDN'T KNOW, BUT IT STILL HURT HER.
I EVEN HAVE A TRAPNEST POSTER UP!
EACH TIME, I JUST HURT NANA'S PRIDE.
ALWAYS BABBLING ABOUT REN AND TRAPNEST...
IT'S ALREADY 9!
WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU GO FOR LUNCH ?!

SLOWLY ...

AND CARE-FULLY ...

I'LL ASK HER ABOUT REN.


YOU DID ?!
Blast
Cherry
AREN'T THESE YASU'S ?
WHAT OTHER MANIAC WOULD SMOKE THESE CRAZY CIGAR-ETTES?
SHIN'S SUCH A TRAIN WRECK ...
ONLY A KID AND SMOKIN' AND BOOZIN' ...
I CAN'T TALK, BUT...
YOU CAN HAVE THEM, NANA.
I TOOK THEM AWAY.
BUT THOSE AREN'T YASU'S. THEY'RE SHIN'S.
OH REALLY ?
IT ALWAYS SMELLS SO NICE AND SWEET AROUND HIM.
ARE THEY REALLY GROSS ?
OH ...
WE CAN SAVE THEM FOR YASU WHEN HE COMES OVER.
NO, I DON'T SMOKE THAT CRAP.
I RAN INTO HIM.
ON THE WAY HOME FROM WORK.
OH ...
HUH ?
SO WHEN DID YOU SEE SHIN?
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
EVEN GIRLS LIKE YOU.
HE MOOCHES OFF OF WORKING WOMEN.
THAT SOUNDS SHADY. DON'T GO OUT WITH SHIN.
WELL THEN, GOOD THING.
WHY NOT BE HONEST ?
WHY AM I LYING ?
HMMM ...

.....
WELL, THAT'S GOOD.
YEAH, SHE SAID SHE WAS ON THE TRAIN HOME.
I HOPE SHE WENT STRAIGHT HOME.
YEAH !
SO, DID YOU EVER CALL MISATO ?
I'LL GO WITH YOU.
THEIR SHOW ?
TRAP-NEST'S ...
UM, NANA ...
BUT ... .
JUST ... ... BECAUSE.
WHY DO YOU WANNA GO NOW?
.....
I TOLD YOU I'D GO IF I FELT LIKE IT.
REALLY ?
WHAT ?

LET'S GO TOGETH-ER!
I'M PSYCHED YOU'RE COMING WITH ME!
NO, I DON'T.
I DON'T HAVE TO GO IF YOU ALREADY HAVE SOME-ONE ELSE TO GO WITH.
BUT WHAT?
I WONDER ...
...IF SHE WANTS TO SEE REN.
IS SHE STILL IN LOVE WITH HIM?
WEIRD ...
NANA PROBABLY WOULDN'T TELL ME THE TRUTH ANYWAY...
...AND I'M AFRAID SHE WON'T GO TO THE CONCERT IF I EMBARRASS HER BY ASKING.
I WANNA ASK HER...
...BUT I JUST CAN'T DO IT!

I BET REN WILL SPOT HER IN THE CROWD.

...IN A SMALL CON-CERT HALL.

FRONT-ROW SEATS ...

I DON'T WANNA MESS UP THIS CHANCE FOR REN AND NANA TO SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.

I'LL ASK HER AFTER THE CON-CERT.

MAYBE ...

THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL MISS HER.

...WILL BE STAND-ING RIGHT UP FRONT, STARING.

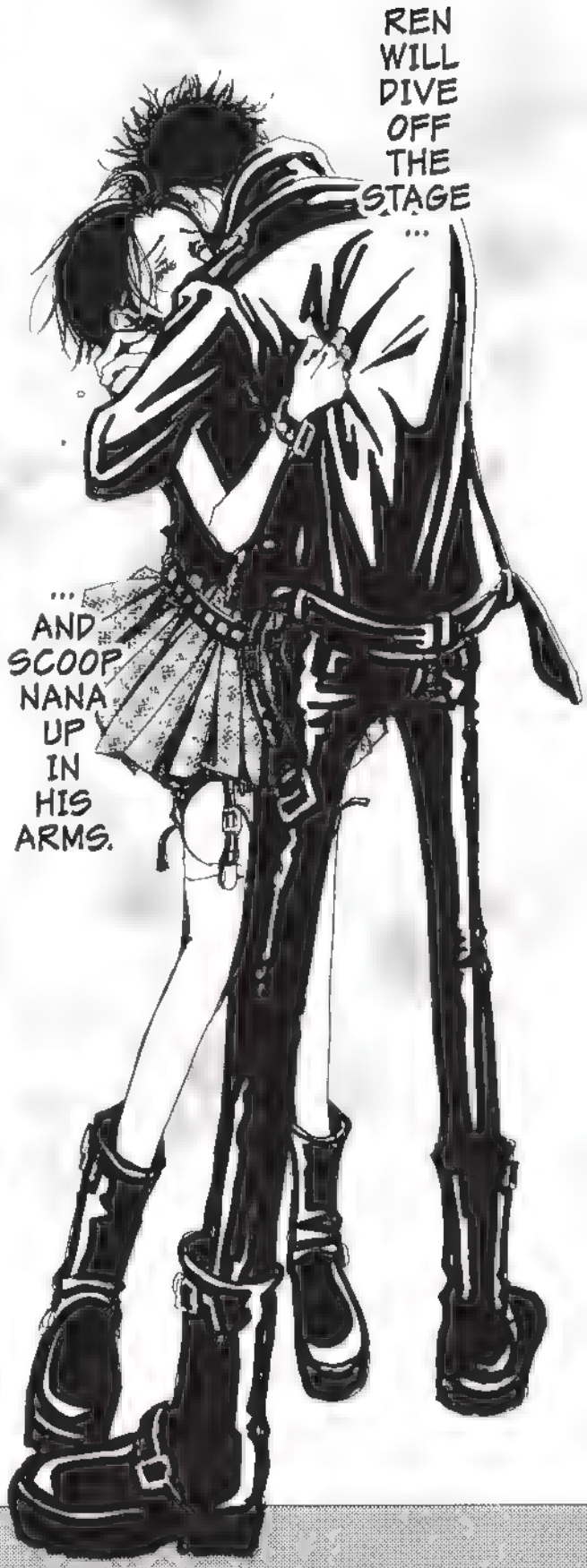
THE GIRL HE DIDN'T WANNA BREAK UP WITH...

...TEARS WILL WELL UP IN NANA'S EYES...

WHEN THEIR EYES MEET...

I'LL PLAY TOTALLY DUMB... (IT'S GENIUS!)

I WON'T SAY A WORD... UNTIL THE CONCERT!



...FOR THEIR BIG REUNION!
I HAVE NO PROBLEM KEEPING MY MOUTH SHUT.
I'VE BEEN PLAYING DUMB FOR A WHILE NOW.
BUT, WOW ...
...IF YOU HAVE FRONT-ROW SEATS, I WANNA GO, TOO!
I'M SORRY... I TOTALLY FORGOT, SHIN.
OH.
HE'S SO CUTE WHEN HE GETS LIKE THIS.
I DOUBT IT'LL BE AS DRAMATIC AS YOU'RE SAYING, HACHI.
YOU'RE RIGHT. REN MIGHT NOT ACTUALLY STAGE-DIVE ONTO NANA...
SO DO YOU THINK REN'S STILL INTO NANA?
IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS NOW, RIGHT?
HMM ...
YEAH, I WONDER ...
THAT GUY'S KINDA ...
THAT GUY'S KINDA WHAT?!
I BET HE GETS AROUND.
DOES HE REALLY?!
NO WAY!
BUT HE WAS TOTALLY DE-VOTED TO NANA.
BACK IN THE DAY ...
WELL ...
NOT ...
YOU KNOW ...
... THAT PAD-LOCK HE ALWAYS WEARS?
NANA GAVE HIM THAT.

WELL, WHO KNOWS?
MAYBE IT'S JUST A FASHION STATEMENT NOW.
OH, C'MON!
YOU KNOW IT'S SYMBOLIC!
WOW, THE PLOT THICKENS ...COOL!
SOUNDS LIKE IT...
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!
THEN HE'S PROB-ABLY STILL IN LOVE WITH HER!
HEY!
YASU, WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON IT?
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.
YEAH ...

WHAT'S WRONG ?
.....?
creak
DO YOU REALLY ?
WHY ARE YOU SO HYPER ?
ROCK STEADY, GUYS!
KEEP IT COOL, GIRL...
OH! TIME FOR PRAC-TICE!
thump thump
THEN I COULD GO OUT WITH TAKUMI ...
... TRAP-NEST WOULD HANG OUT AT OUR PLACE!
IF NANA AND REN GET BACK TOGETHER ...
AND MY IMAGI-NATION RAN WILD.
...I WAS WORRIED THAT NANA WOULD CHANGE HER MIND.
SO FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE CONCERT ...

Takumi
Aahh
MS. KOMATSU, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!
WHAT'LL I DO?!
Ring ring
2:56 AM
IT'S ME ... ♡
HELLO ?
.....

Seven Stars
FUCK
OH, YOU AGAIN.
NOW WHAT'S UP, AT THIS HOUR?

THE MORNING OF THE CONCERT...

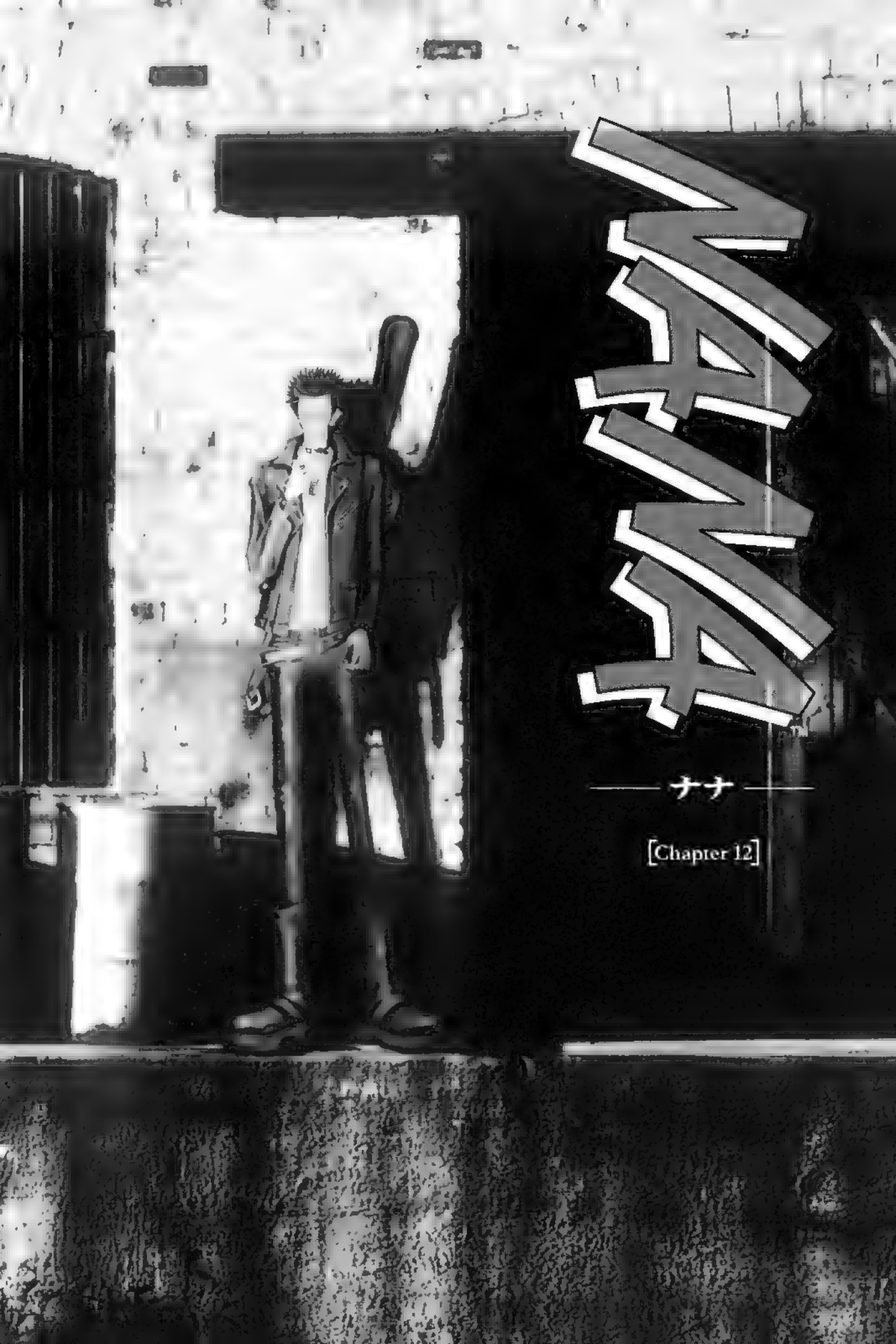
...YOU WERE SITTING BY THE WINDOW...

...JUST LIKE ALWAYS, NANA.

BUT SOMETHING SMELLED DIFFERENT...

THE CIGARETTES I TOOK AWAY FROM SHIN.

THE SMELL OF BLAST, WHICH YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T SMOKE.


NANA
ナナ
[Chapter 12]

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT TOOK ME SO LONG TO FIGURE OUT ABOUT NANA AND REN.
FROM THE NUMBER OF EAR-RINGS TO THE WAY THEY SPEAK ...
... NANA AND REN WERE SO SIMI-LAR.
I FELT THE WEIGHT OF THE HISTORY BETWEEN THEM.

Q: Since you're the only Trapnest member I'm interviewing today, I need you to be chatty, unless you want me to make stuff up

A: (smile) Whatever. People think I'm shy, but I can spin a good yarn

Q: But you're also good at dodging questions.

A: Well, Naoki talks too much. Do something about that. He only shuts up when he's playing drums!

Q: (smile) Well, Naoki's not here, so just pour your heart out. For starters, about that padlock you always wear..

A: So? What about it? Let's talk about music. Isn't this a music magazine?

Q: But inquiring minds wanna know! I wanna know ♡ What's the story behind it?

A: I forgot.

Q: All right, so you bought it online

A: Don't make stuff up!

Q: But you always wear it, so it must symbolize something for you. There must be a history

A: I just can't take it off. I lost the key

Q: The key? You can't pick the lock? Shouldn't you be good at that?

A: Whaddya mean?! (smile)

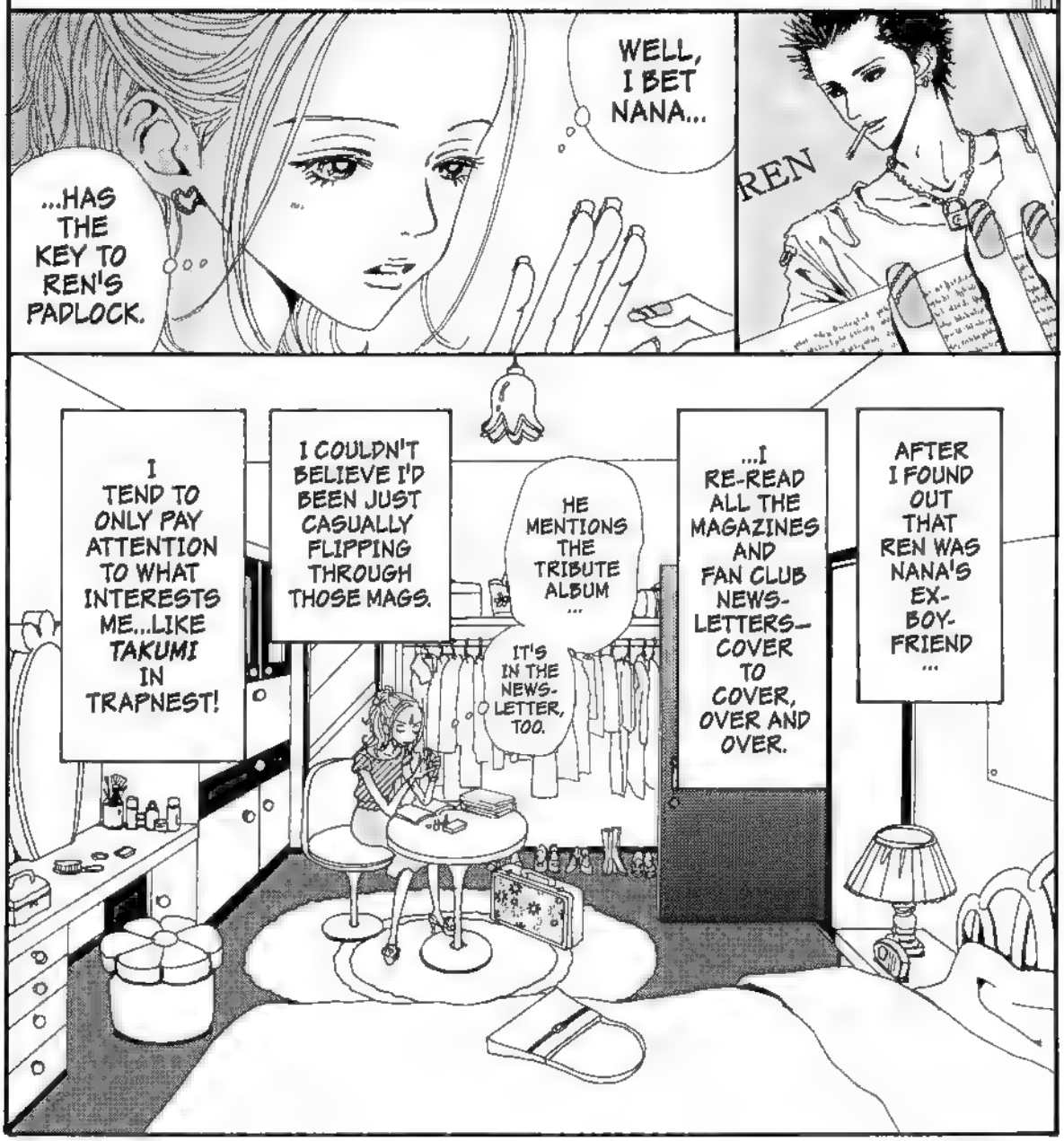
Q: Is that some sorta Sid Vicious thing?

A: People call me "that cosplay guy!"

Q: (smile) Then besides cosplay, you played bass on the Sex Pistols' tribute album. Tell me about that

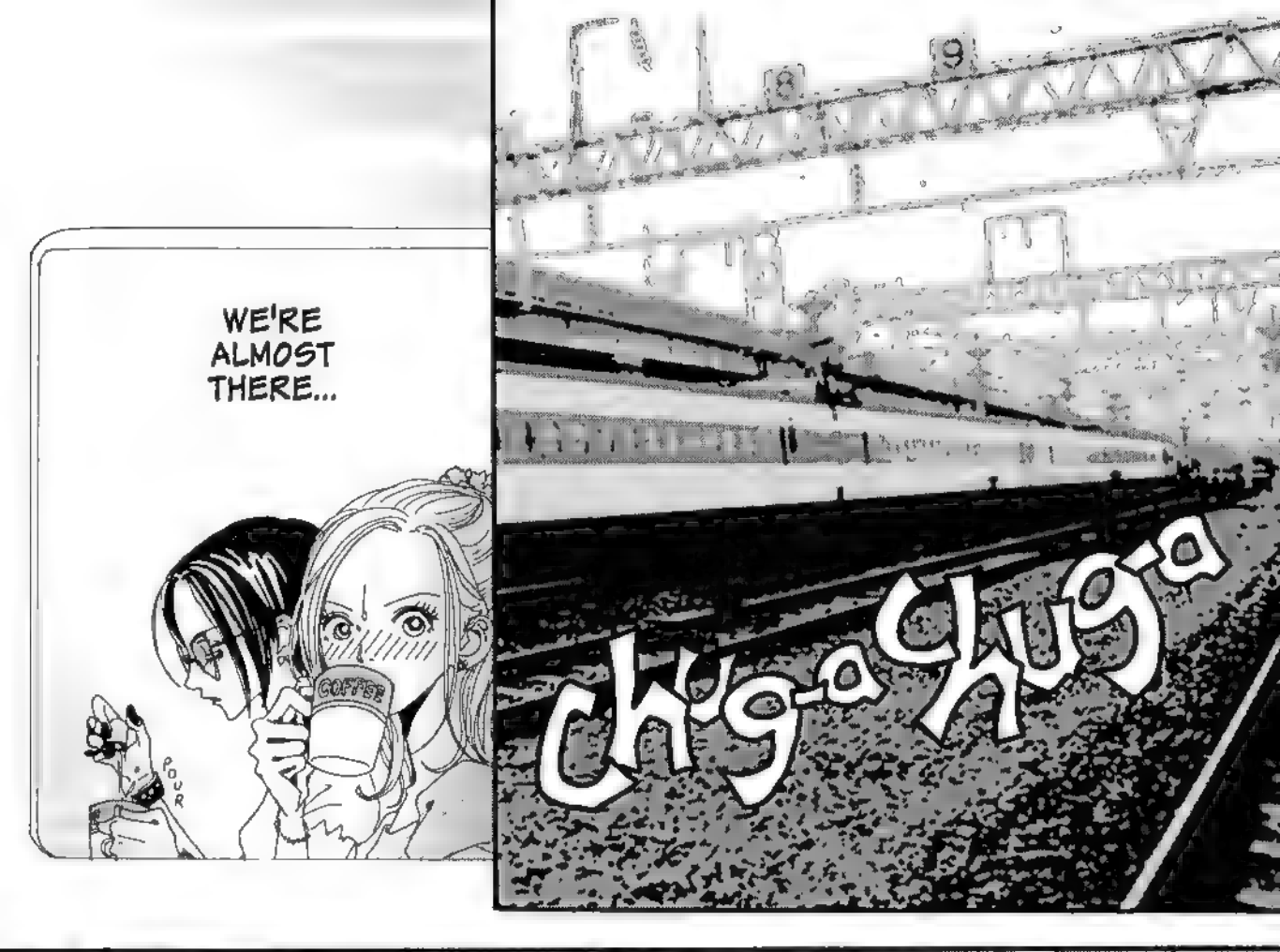
A: Wow, you really can connect the dots. Impressive. What made you decide to be a pop music critic?

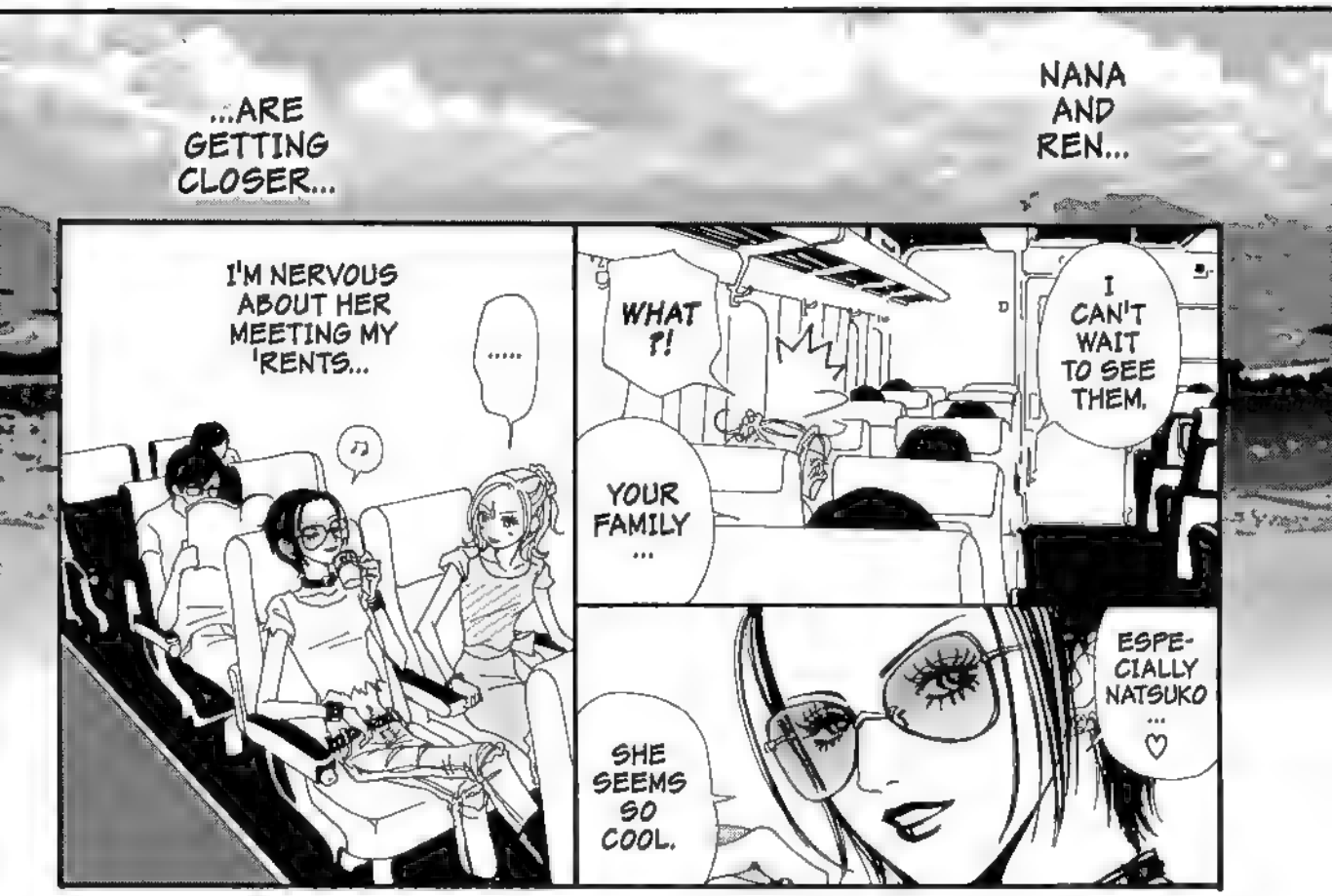
Q: This isn't about me... (smile)

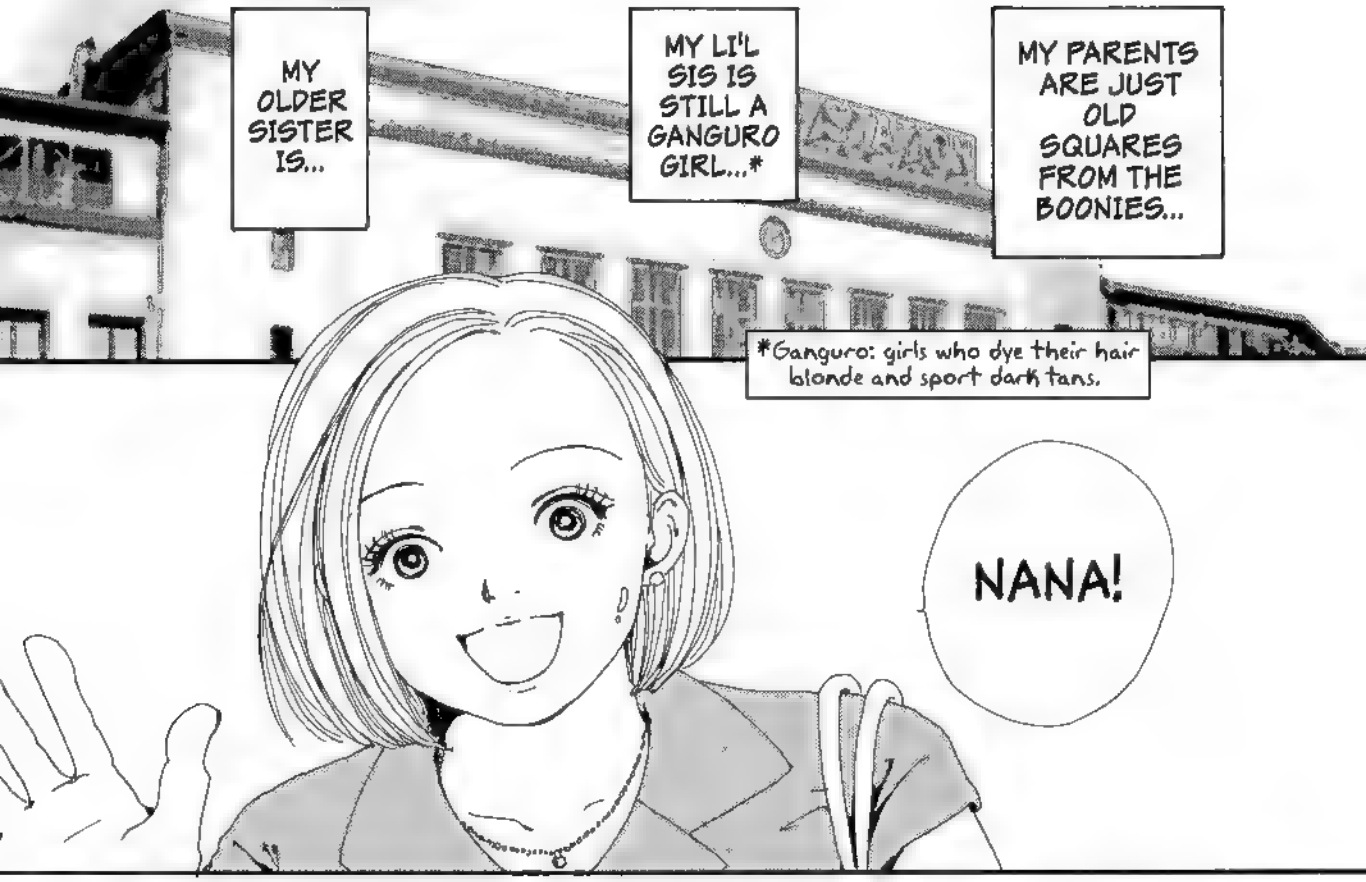

WELL, I BET NANA...
...HAS THE KEY TO REN'S PADLOCK.
REN
I TEND TO ONLY PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT INTERESTS ME...LIKE TAKUMI IN TRAPNEST!
I COULDN'T BELIEVE I'D BEEN JUST CASUALLY FLIPPING THROUGH THOSE MAGS.
HE MENTIONS THE TRIBUTE ALBUM ...
IT'S IN THE NEWS-LETTER, TOO.
...I RE-READ ALL THE MAGAZINES AND FAN CLUB NEWS-LETTERS— COVER TO COVER, OVER AND OVER.
AFTER I FOUND OUT THAT REN WAS NANA'S EX-BOY-FRIEND ...

WELL, I DON'T WANNA THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE.
I CAN'T DEAL WITH ANYTHING ELSE.
ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS NANA AND REN.
APNEST TH
May 26th 2001
IDEA HALL
Doors 5:3
Reserved Seating
Sponsor
Production
Promotion
Seat No. 1st Floor
...I PROB-ABLY WOULDN'T CARE ABOUT SHOJI ANY-MORE.
IF I HAD A NEW BOY-FRIEND ...
ARE YOU READY ?
I CAN'T WAIT FOR THAT DAY...
SHOULD WE HIT IT?

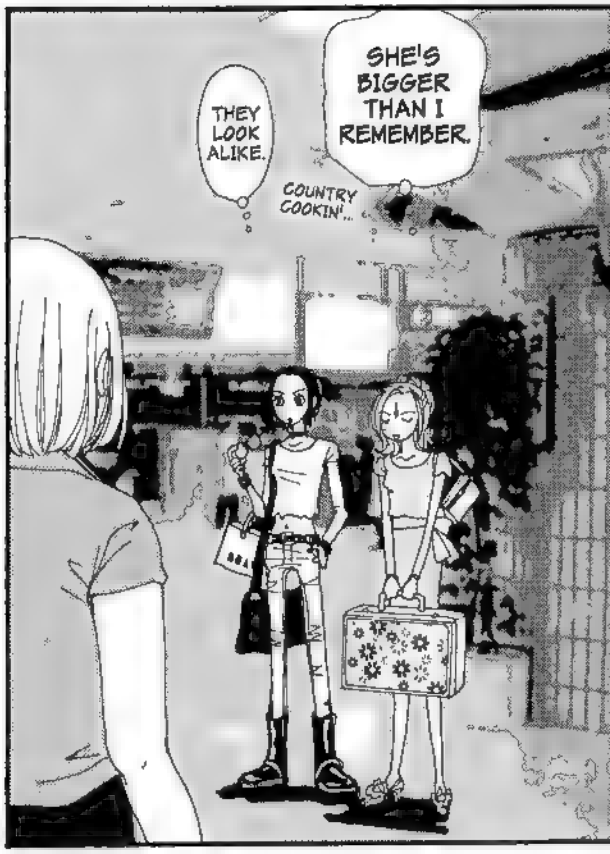
THIS IS THE BIG NIGHT OUT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.
LET'S DRESS UP!
BUT ...
WELL, I THOUGHT I'D GO EASY ON THE OUTFIT SINCE WE'RE SPENDING THE NIGHT.
IT'S COOL ... ♡
IT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU'RE GONNA SEE REN IN TWO YEARS...
...AT LEAST WEAR A SKIRT!
.....
YEAH ...
YOU'RE WEARING THAT TO THE CONCERT ?
WHY ?
ARE YOU GONNA CHANGE ?
WHAT IF REN DOESN'T RECOGNIZE YOU WITH THOSE SUN-GLASSES ON?
YOU DON'T CARE?!
.....
IT'S JUST A TRAP-NEST SHOW ...
AND WHY SHOULD I DRESS UP?
IT'S YOUR BIG NIGHT, NOT MINE.
I GOTTA TRY NOT TO DRIVE HER CRAZY BEFORE THAT!
BUT FIRST I GOTTA GET NANA TO THE CONCERT.
I CAN'T BITE MY TONGUE ANY-MORE...
OH, MAN...


WE'RE ALMOST THERE...
COFFEE
POUR
chug-a-chug-a

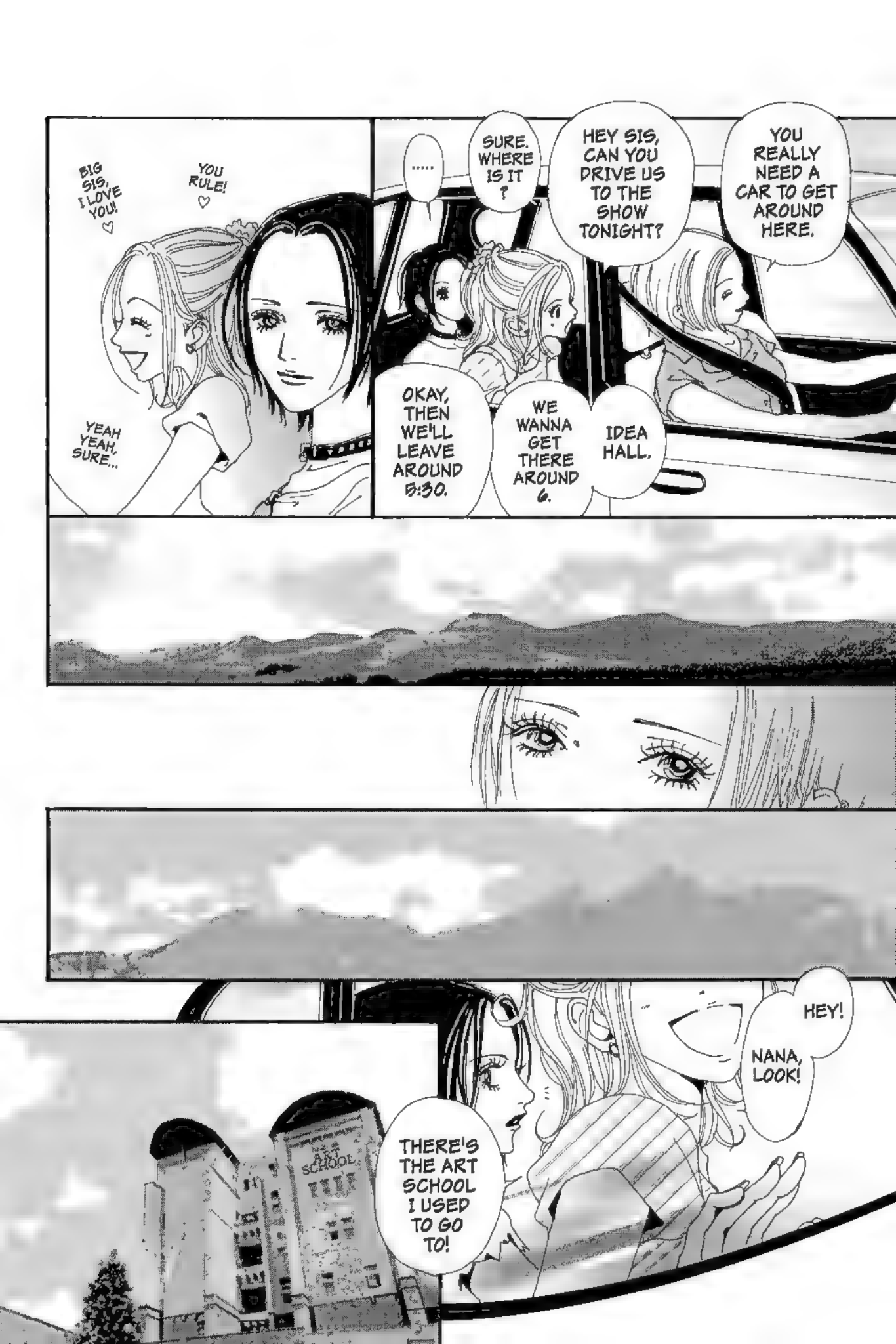

...ARE GETTING CLOSER...
NANA AND REN...
I'M NERVOUS ABOUT HER MEETING MY 'RENTS...
.....
♫
WHAT?!
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THEM.
YOUR FAMILY ...
SHE SEEMS SO COOL.
ESPE-CIALLY NATSUKO ... ♡

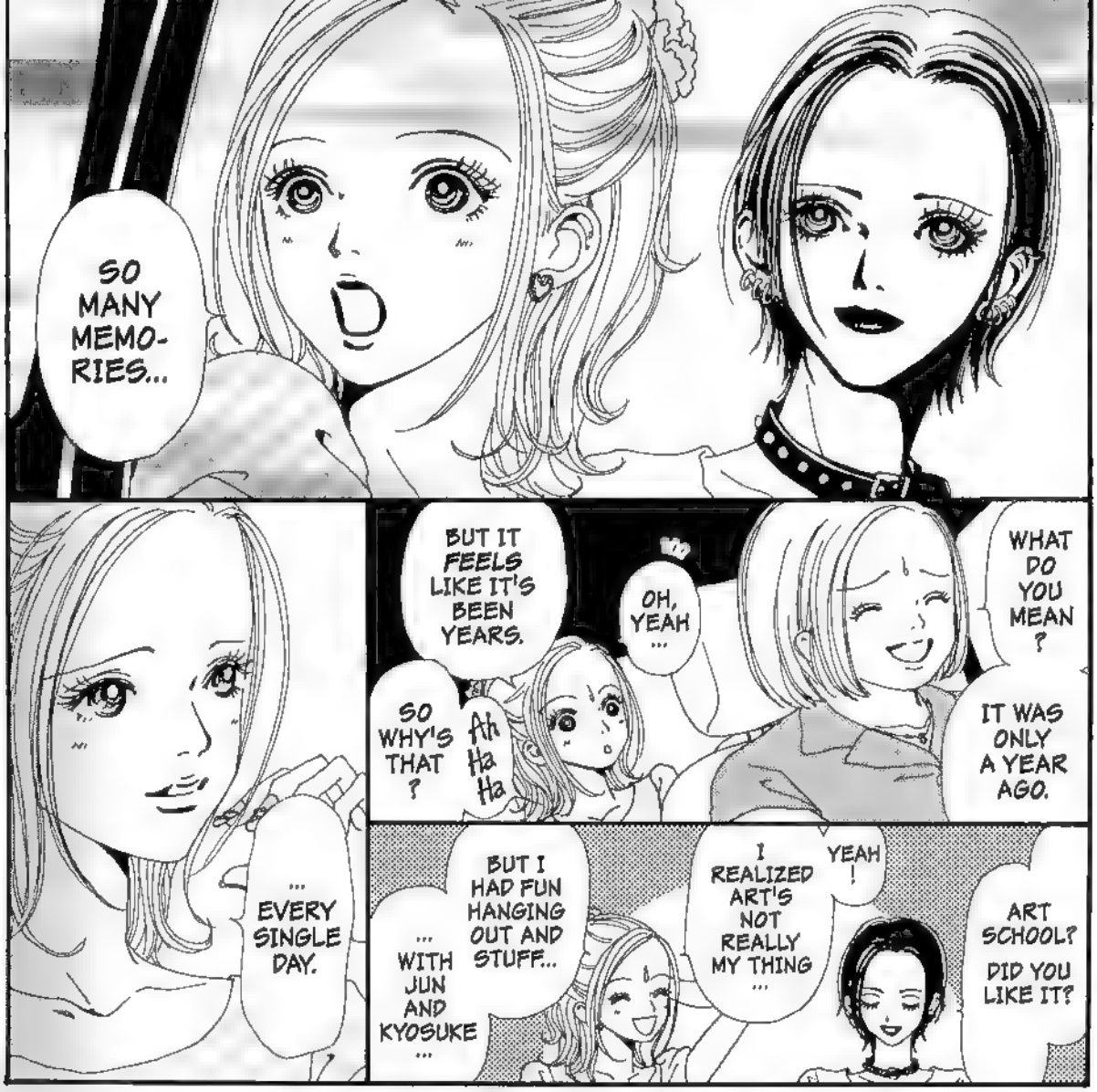

MY OLDER SISTER IS...
MY LI'L SIS IS STILL A GANGURO GIRL...*
MY PARENTS ARE JUST OLD SQUARES FROM THE BOONIES...
*Ganguro: girls who dye their hair blonde and sport dark tans.
NANA!

Vrrroooomm


THEY LOOK ALIKE.
SHE'S BIGGER THAN I REMEMBER.
COUNTRY COOKIN'...

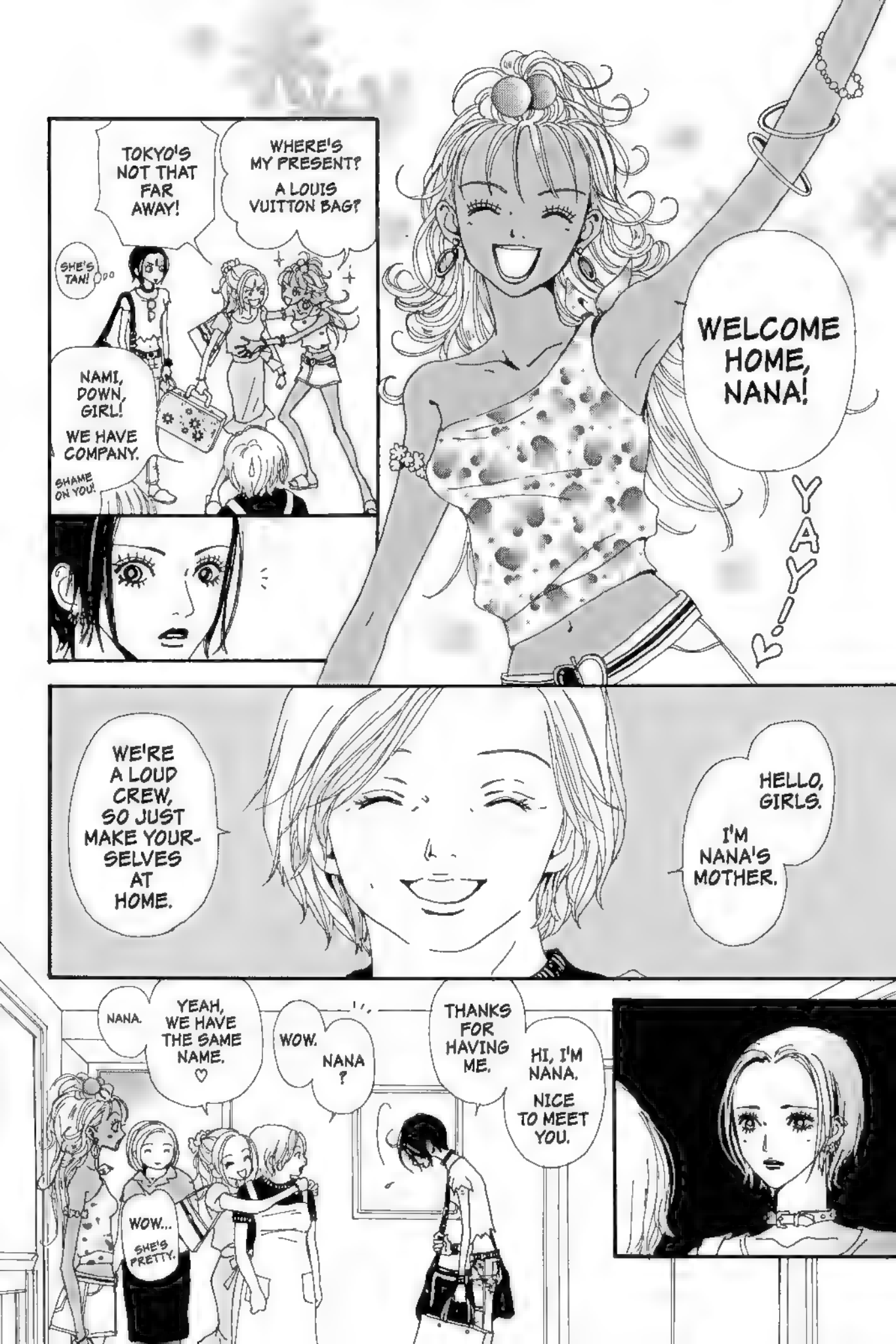
NO PROBLEM! TODAY'S MY DAY OFF!
HEEHEE
THANKS FOR COMING TO GET US!


BIG SIS, I LOVE YOU!
YOU RULE!
YEAH YEAH, SURE...
.....
SURE. WHERE IS IT ?
HEY SIS, CAN YOU DRIVE US TO THE SHOW TONIGHT?
YOU REALLY NEED A CAR TO GET AROUND HERE.
OKAY, THEN WE'LL LEAVE AROUND 5:30.
WE WANNA GET THERE AROUND 6.
IDEA HALL.
HEY!
NANA, LOOK!
THERE'S THE ART SCHOOL I USED TO GO TO!
ART SCHOOL

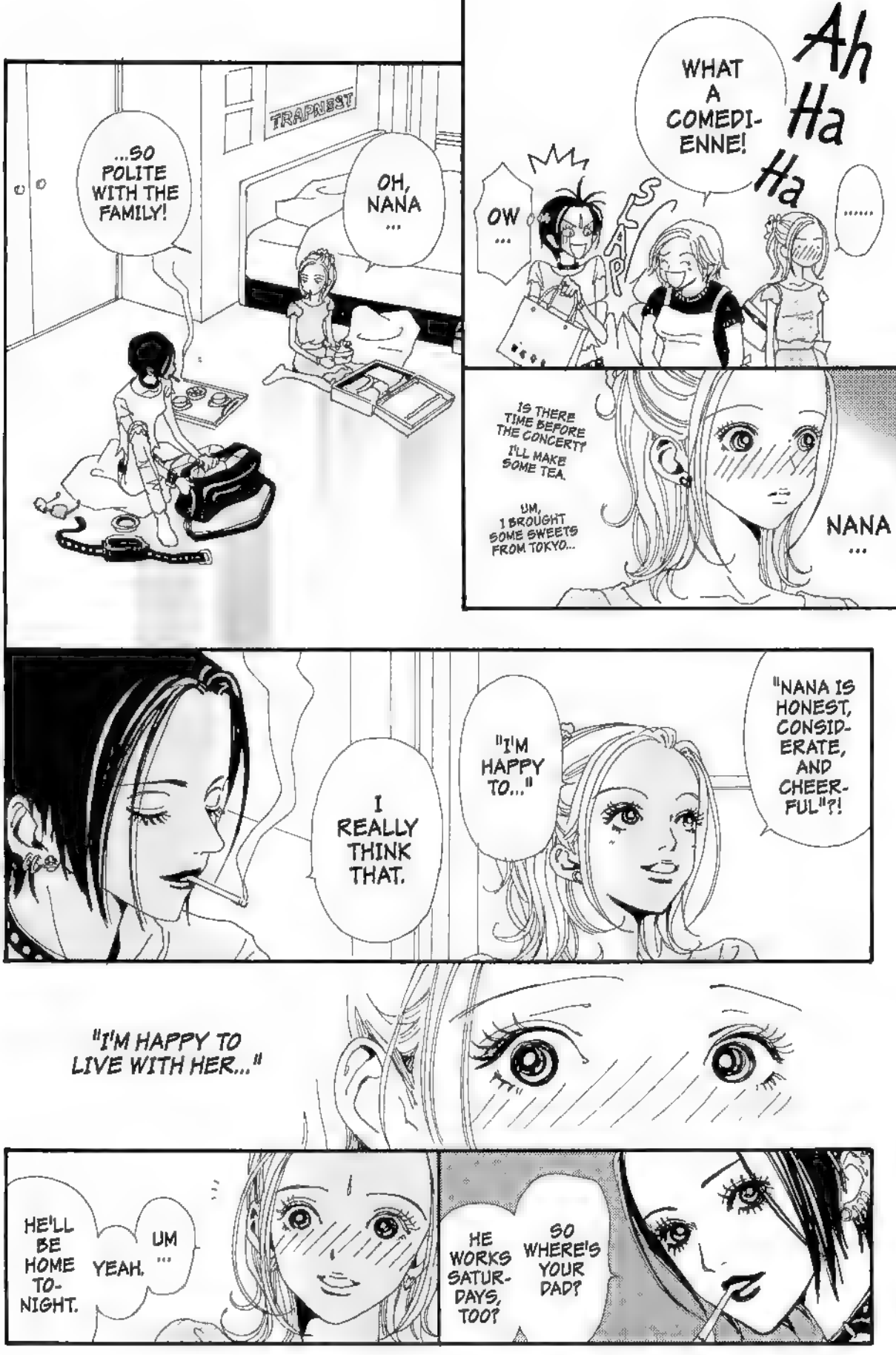

SO MANY MEMO-RIES...
... EVERY SINGLE DAY.
BUT IT FEELS LIKE IT'S BEEN YEARS.
SO WHY'S THAT ?
Ah Ha Ha
OH, YEAH ...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?
IT WAS ONLY A YEAR AGO.
... WITH JUN AND KYOSUKE ...
BUT I HAD FUN HANGING OUT AND STUFF...
I REALIZED ART'S NOT REALLY MY THING ...
YEAH !
ART SCHOOL? DID YOU LIKE IT?

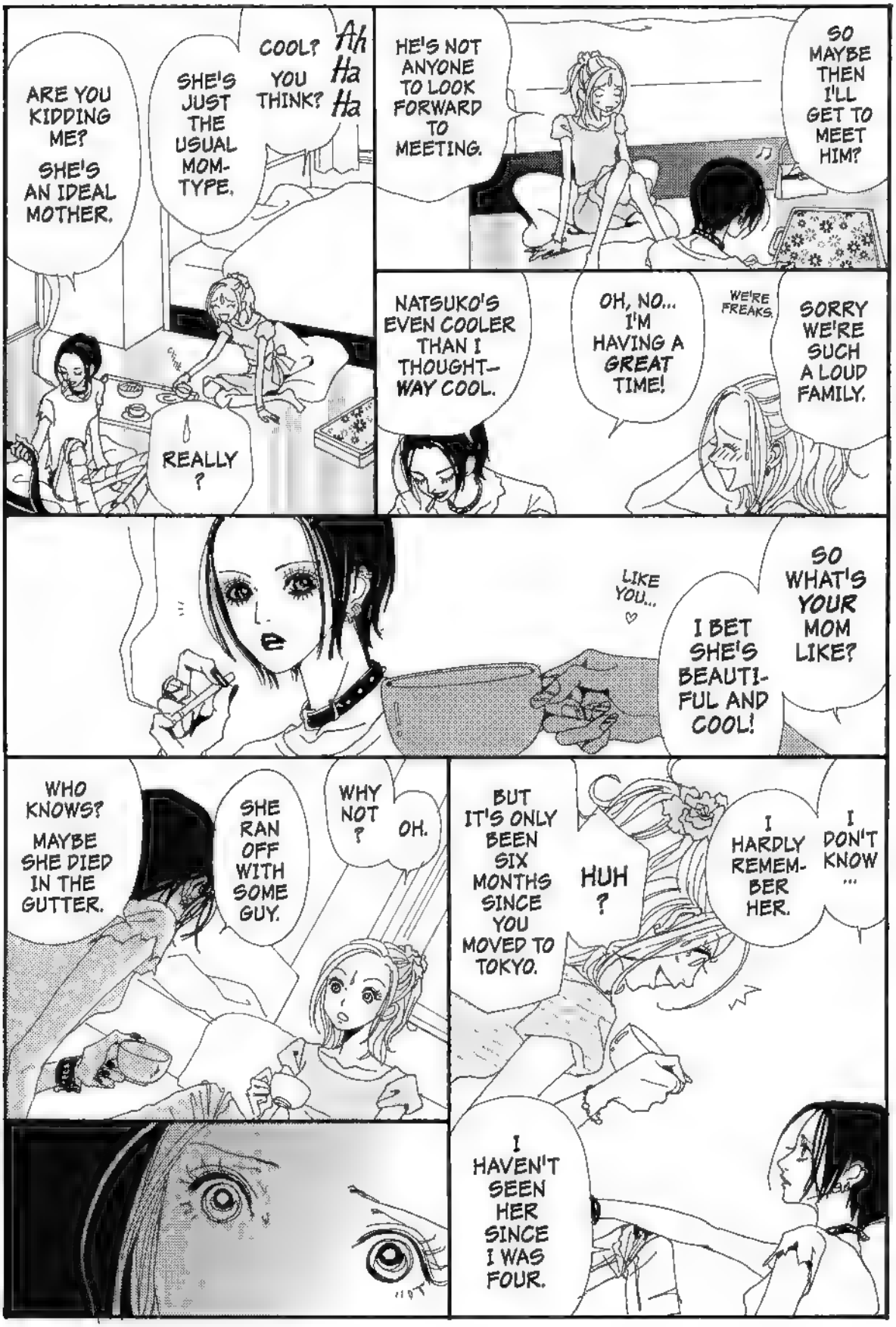
SHOJI ...
NO ...
IT'S NOT TRUE.
I'M HER ROOM-MATE.
.....
SO ANYWAY, NANA...
NAMI SAYS YOU'RE LIVING WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND. IS THAT TRUE?
IS IT THAT ONE GUY?
THE ONE WHO ALWAYS CAME OVER WHILE YOU WERE IN ART SCHOOL...
OH, REALLY ?
YEAH, YOU SHOULD COME VISIT US SOME-TIME.
COME AND SEE FOR YOUR-SELF!
....
UH, OH...
NAMI'S JUST MAKING THINGS UP AGAIN.
WHAT A NUT JOB.
SHE WORRIES ME.
I'M GLAD NANA'S HERE.

...FOR ME TO VISIT ALONE.
THERE'S TOO MANY MEMORIES HERE...
WOW!
YOU HAVE A BIG, RICH, FANCY HOUSE!
NO, IT'S PRETTY NORMAL.
LAND'S CHEAP AROUND HERE.
HEY, MOM!
WE'RE HOME!
NANA'S HERE!


TOKYO'S NOT THAT FAR AWAY!
WHERE'S MY PRESENT? A LOUIS VUITTON BAG?
SHE'S TAN!
NAMI, DOWN, GIRL! WE HAVE COMPANY.
SHAME ON YOU!
WELCOME HOME, NANA!
YAY!
HELLO, GIRLS. I'M NANA'S MOTHER.
WE'RE A LOUD CREW, SO JUST MAKE YOURSELVES AT HOME.
NANA.
YEAH, WE HAVE THE SAME NAME. ♡
WOW. NANA?
THANKS FOR HAVING ME.
HI, I'M NANA. NICE TO MEET YOU.
WOW... SHE'S PRETTY.

WELL, HOW BORING IS THAT?!
.....
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME BEFORE?!
THEN I WOULDN'T HAVE WORRIED SO MUCH!
Ba Ha Ha Ha
MOM!
TOO BAD...
YOU POOR GIRL.
THE SAME NAME, BUT SO DIFFER-ENT.
DON'T BELIEVE THE HYPE!
WHAT? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR BOYFRIEND?
...
REALLY?
NANA IS NANA'S ROOM-MATE.
NATSUKO RULES!
I LOVE YOU!
Heh heh
I TRIED TO TELL YOU, BUT YOU DIDN'T LISTEN!
LIVING WITH A GIRL LIKE THIS...
SHE MUST BE A REAL PAIN...
I'M SORRY.
NO...
NANA IS HONEST, CONSID-ERATE, AND CHEERFUL.
I'M HAPPY TO LIVE WITH HER.
JUST AS I THOUGHT, SHE GREW UP IN A WARM FAMILY.

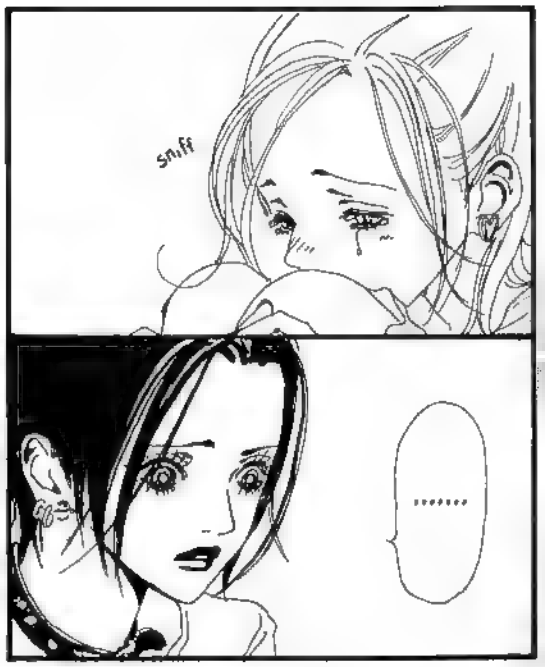

TRAPNEST
...SO POLITE WITH THE FAMILY!
OH, NANA ...
Ah Ha Ha
WHAT A COMEDI-ENNE!
OW ...
.....
IS THERE TIME BEFORE THE CONCERT?
I'LL MAKE SOME TEA.
UM, I BROUGHT SOME SWEETS FROM TOKYO...
NANA ...
"NANA IS HONEST, CONSID-ERATE, AND CHEER-FUL"?!
"I'M HAPPY TO..."
I REALLY THINK THAT.
"I'M HAPPY TO LIVE WITH HER..."
SO WHERE'S YOUR DAD?
HE WORKS SATUR-DAYS, TOO?
UM ...
YEAH.
HE'LL BE HOME TO-NIGHT.


ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
SHE'S AN IDEAL MOTHER.
SHE'S JUST THE USUAL MOM-TYPE.
COOL? YOU THINK?
Ah Ha Ha
REALLY ?
HE'S NOT ANYONE TO LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING.
SO MAYBE THEN I'LL GET TO MEET HIM?
NATSUKO'S EVEN COOLER THAN I THOUGHT— WAY COOL.
OH, NO... I'M HAVING A GREAT TIME!
WE'RE FREAKS.
SORRY WE'RE SUCH A LOUD FAMILY.
LIKE YOU... ♡
I BET SHE'S BEAUTI-FUL AND COOL!
SO WHAT'S YOUR MOM LIKE?
WHO KNOWS?
MAYBE SHE DIED IN THE GUTTER.
SHE RAN OFF WITH SOME GUY.
WHY NOT ?
OH.
BUT IT'S ONLY BEEN SIX MONTHS SINCE YOU MOVED TO TOKYO.
HUH ?
I HARDLY REMEM-BER HER.
I DON'T KNOW ...
I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE I WAS FOUR.

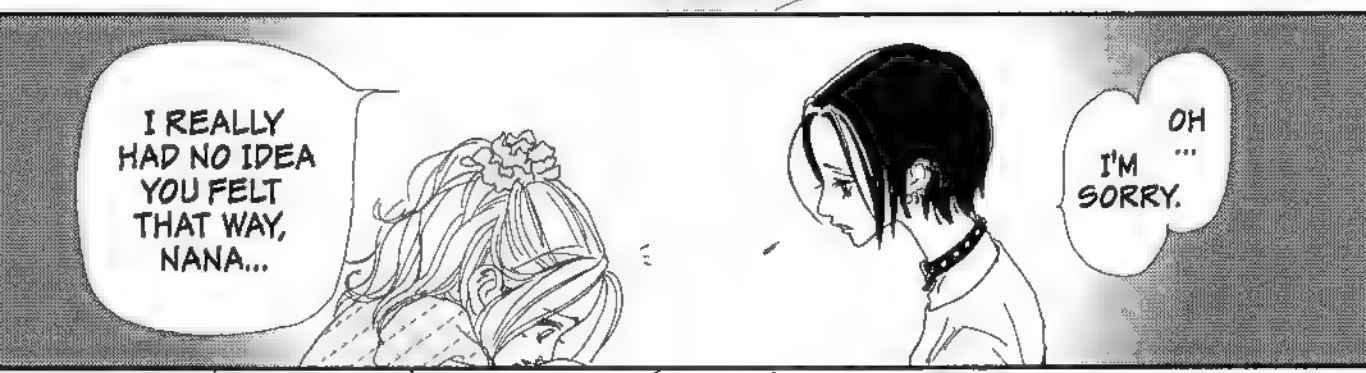
I NEVER KNEW MY FATHER.
NO.
...DID YOU GROW UP WITH YOUR FATHER? BROTHERS? SISTERS?
SO THEN ...
I WAS RAISED BY MY MOTHER'S MOTHER.
BUT SHE DIED WHEN I WAS 15.
NOT THAT I REALLY CARE...
.....
SO IT'S KINDA WEIRD...
IT'S INTER-ESTING.
I NEVER KNEW ANYTHING LIKE THIS.
...BEING AROUND THIS HAPPY FAMILY SCENE.
OH, NANA...
INTER-ESTING ...?

I GUESS I TAKE IT FOR GRANTED.
IT'S JUST WHAT I GREW UP WITH.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO BUM YOU OUT...
I'M SORRY.
UM ...
SORRY...
I JUST ...
I HAD NO IDEA.
I'M SORRY I BROUGHT IT UP.
BUT I'M ALSO GLAD.
?
NO!
I DON'T MEAN ...
...I'M NOT GLAD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.
WHAT YOU TOLD ME MAKES ME REALLY SAD.
CALM DOWN!
OKAY ...

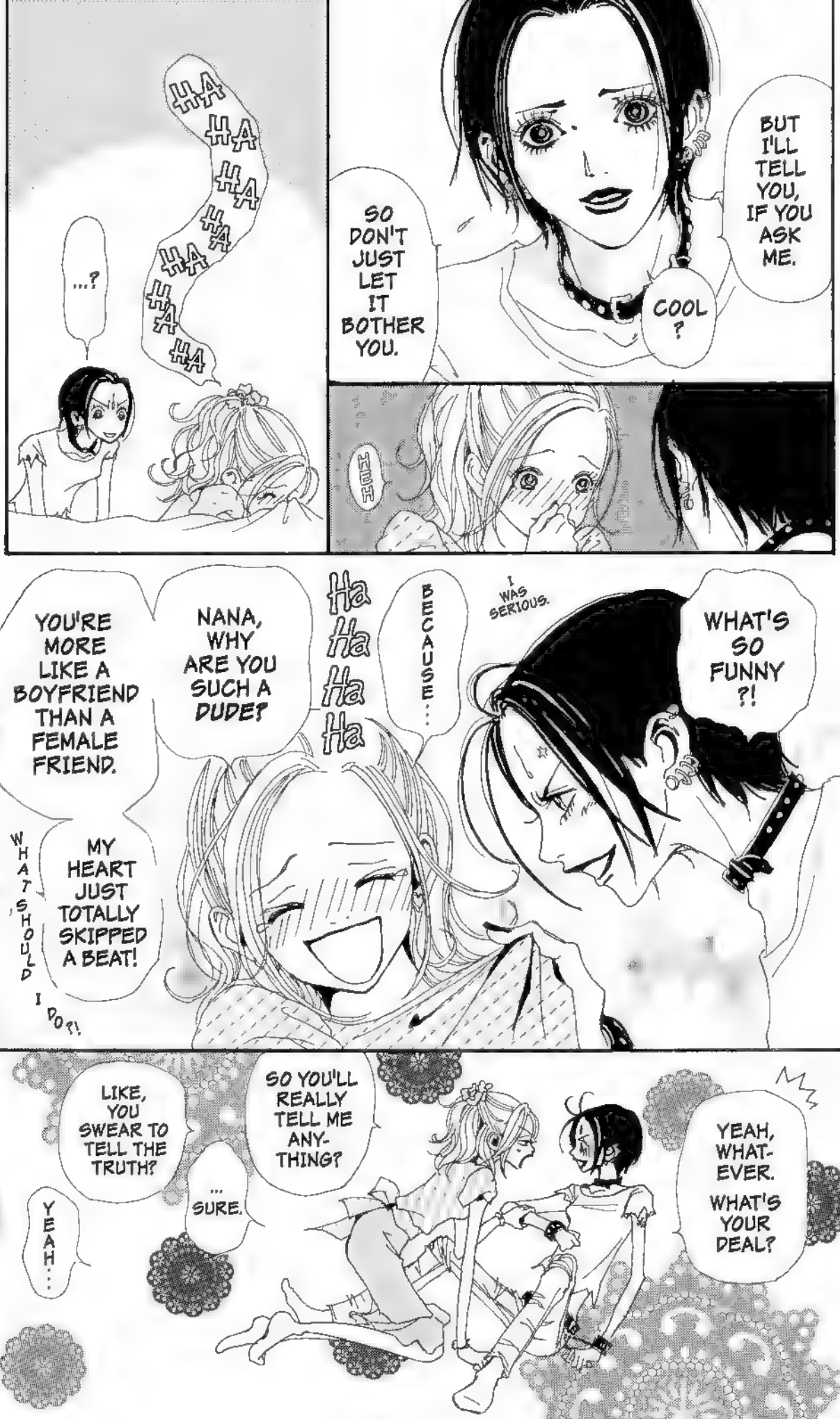
BUT YOU NEVER REALLY TOLD ME ANYTHING ABOUT YOURSELF BEFORE.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHY...
AND IT...
ALWAYS KINDA BOTHERED ME...

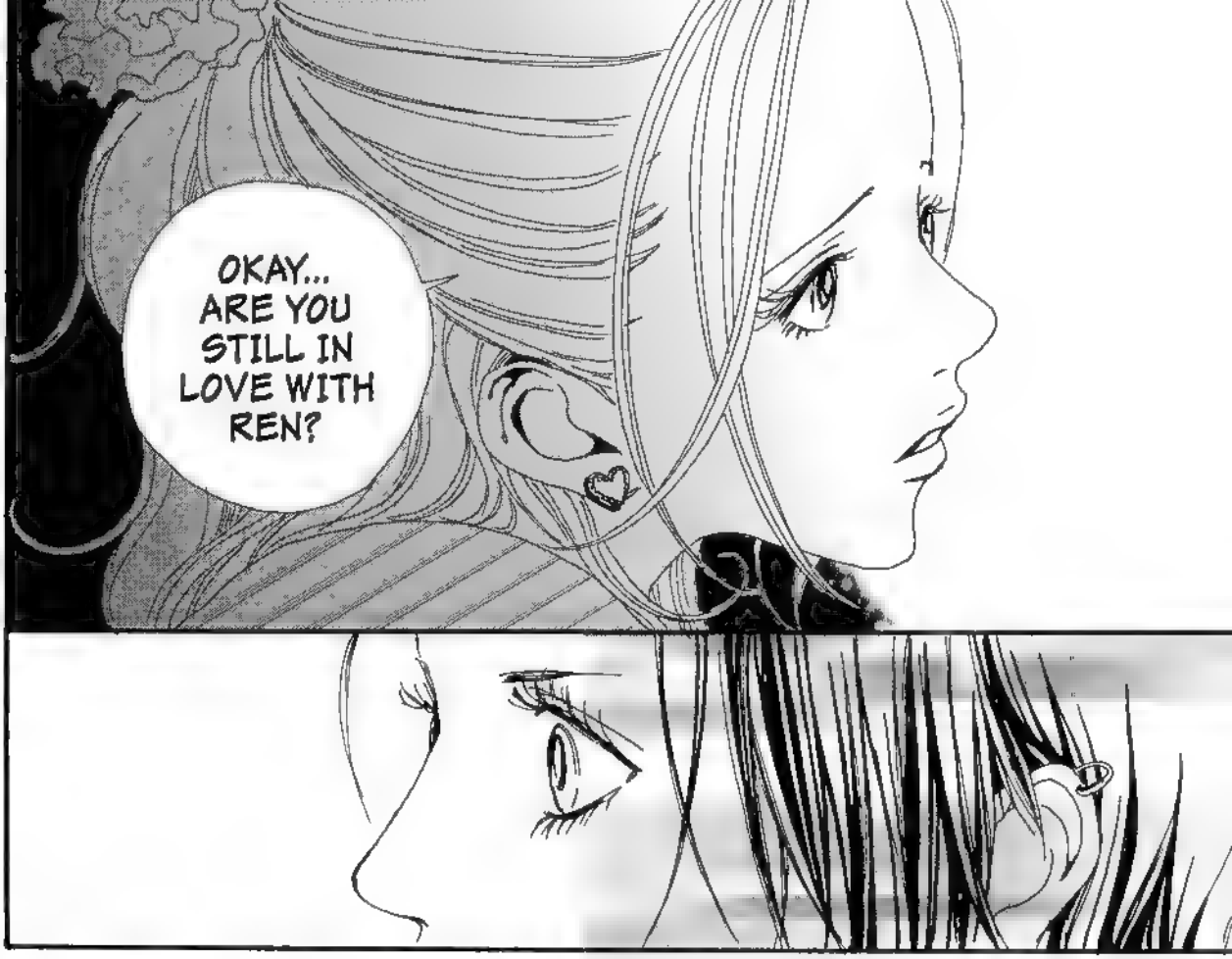

sniff
.....

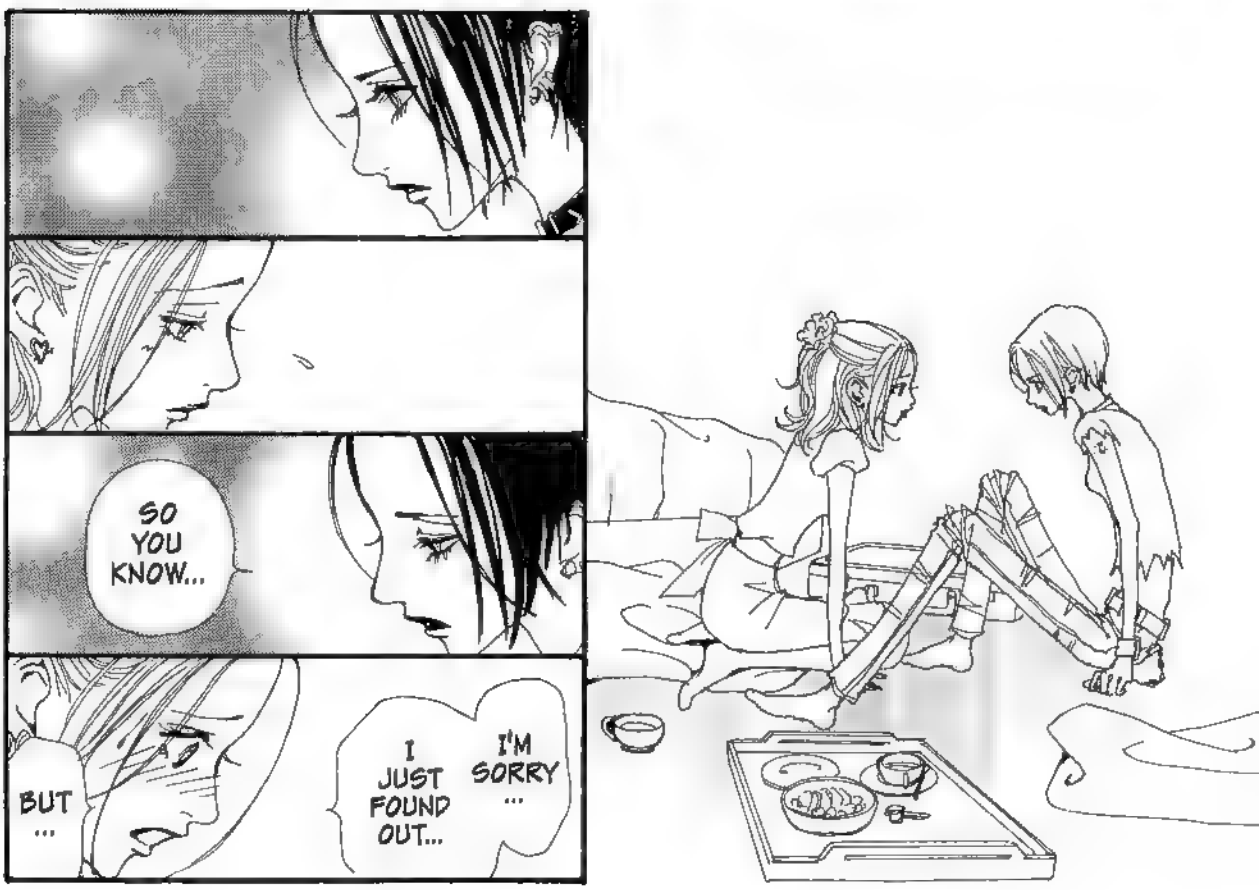
SO I'M GLAD YOU TOLD ME...


I REALLY HAD NO IDEA YOU FELT THAT WAY, NANA...
OH... I'M SORRY.

'CAUSE I'M BAD AT TALKING ABOUT MYSELF.
I RARELY DO DEEP PERSONAL CONVER-SATIONS...
....
...SO I DON'T ALWAYS GET THE EMO THING.
I'VE NEVER HAD CLOSE FEMALE FRIENDS BEFORE...


HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
...?
SO DON'T JUST LET IT BOTHER YOU.
COOL?
BUT I'LL TELL YOU, IF YOU ASK ME.
HEH
YOU'RE MORE LIKE A BOYFRIEND THAN A FEMALE FRIEND.
NANA, WHY ARE YOU SUCH A DUDE?
Ha Ha Ha Ha
BECAUSE...
I WAS SERIOUS.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
MY HEART JUST TOTALLY SKIPPED A BEAT!
LIKE, YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH?
YEAH...
... SURE.
SO YOU'LL REALLY TELL ME ANY-THING?
YEAH, WHAT-EVER.
WHAT'S YOUR DEAL?

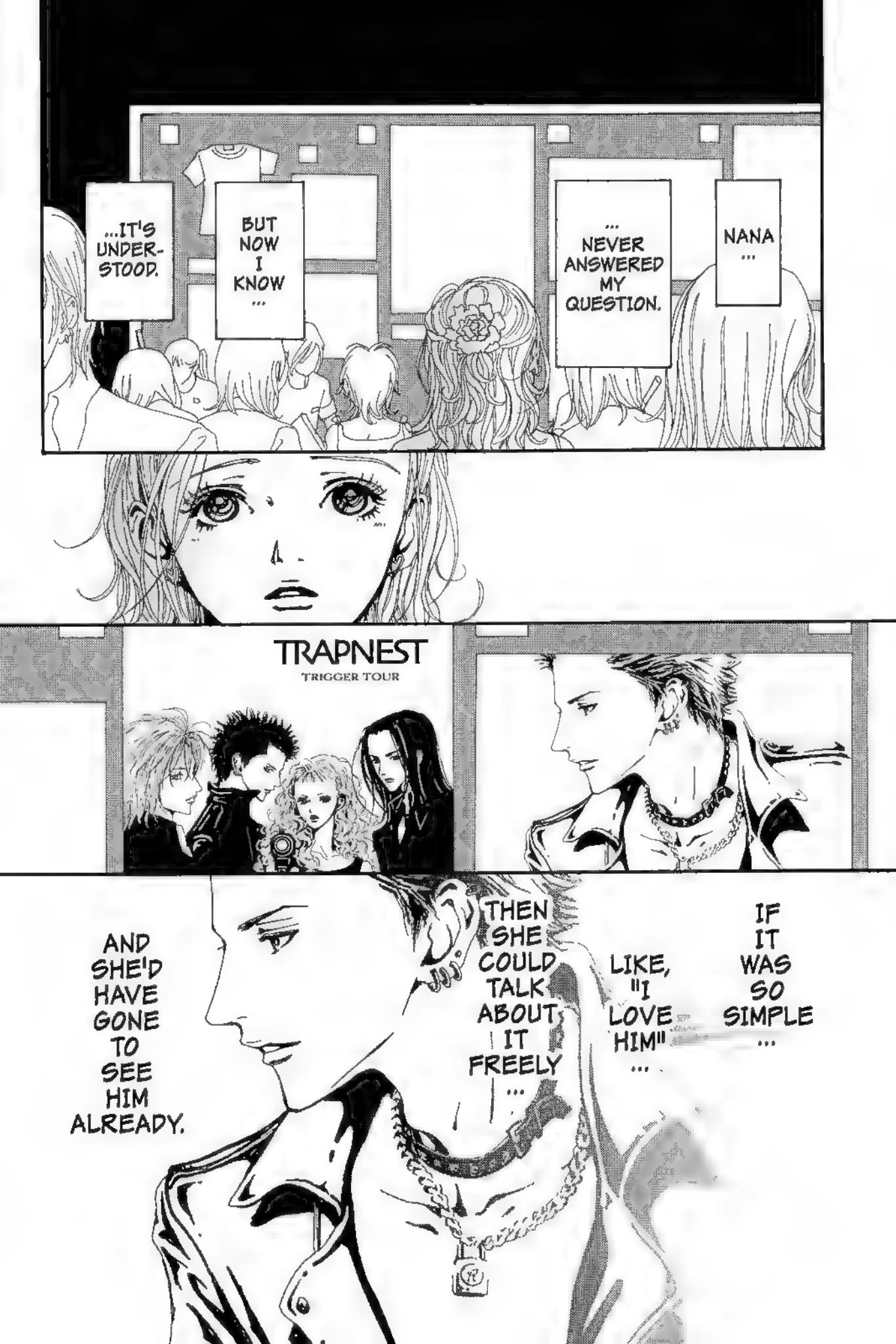

OKAY... ARE YOU STILL IN LOVE WITH REN?


SO YOU KNOW...
BUT ...
I JUST FOUND OUT...
I'M SORRY ...

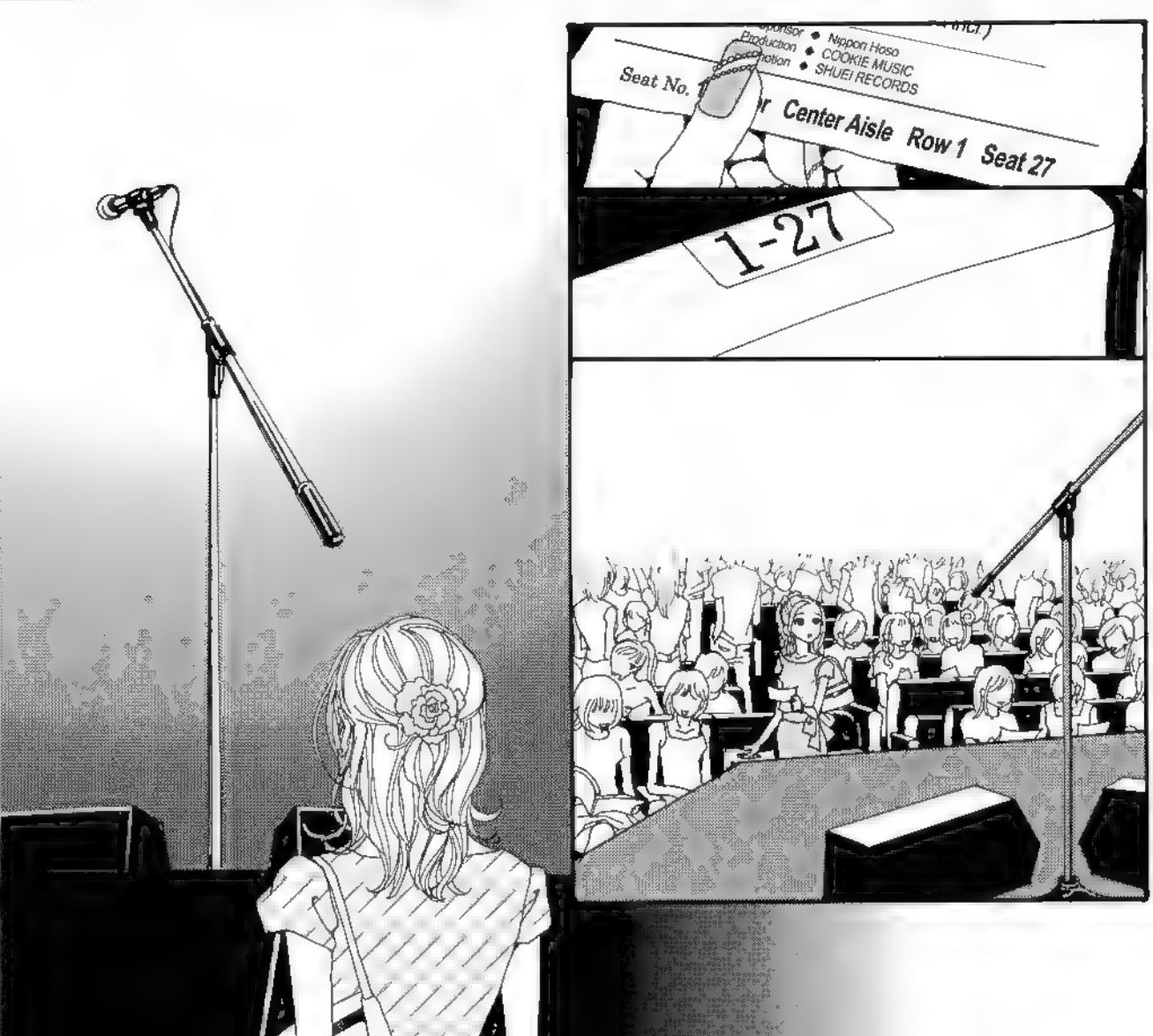
YOU MEAN, YOU KNEW ...
...AND YOU BROUGHT ME HERE ?
THANK YOU.

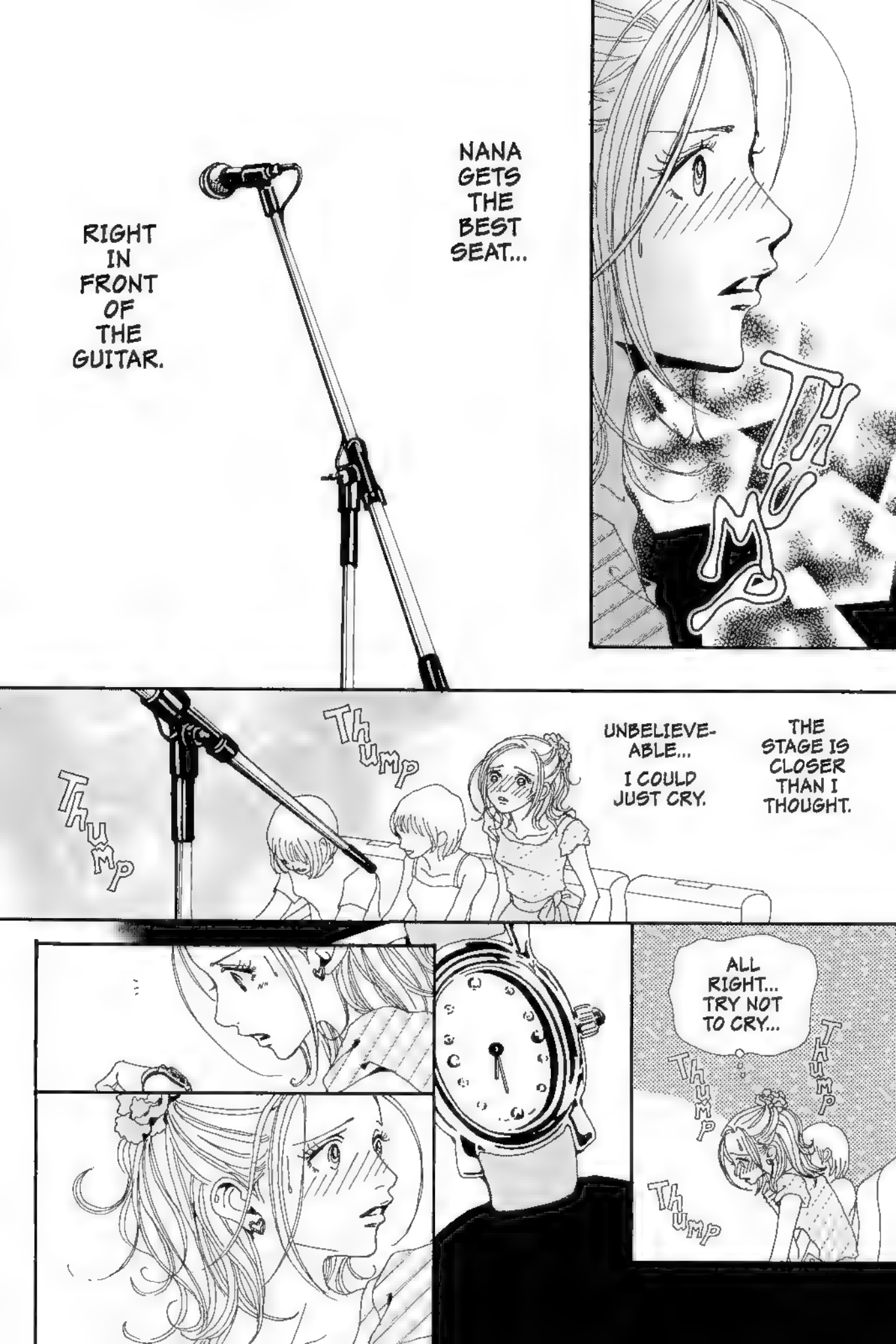
TRAPNEST
TRIGGER TOUR
TRAPNEST
TRIGGER TOUR
TRAPNEST TRIGGER TOUR
May 26th 2001 (Saturday)
Row 1 Seat 27
TRAPNEST
TRIGGER
TRIGGER
1000

blah
WANNA GO WITH ME TO BUY THE CONCERT PROGRAM?
NANA ...
blah
NAH. I'M GONNA GO SMOKE, THEN GO IN...
...I CAN LOOK AT THE PROGRAM LATER...
"ARE YOU STILL IN LOVE WITH REN?"


...IT'S UNDERSTOOD.
BUT NOW I KNOW ...
... NEVER ANSWERED MY QUESTION.
NANA ...
TRAPNEST
TRIGGER TOUR
AND SHE'D HAVE GONE TO SEE HIM ALREADY.
THEN SHE COULD TALK ABOUT IT FREELY ...
LIKE, "I LOVE HIM" ...
IF IT WAS SO SIMPLE ...

BUT SHE HAD TOO MUCH PRIDE FOR THAT...
...TO BE JUST THE GIRLFRIEND OF A ROCK STAR.


Nippon Hoso
COOKIE MUSIC
SHUEI RECORDS
Seat No.
Center Aisle Row 1 Seat 27
1-27

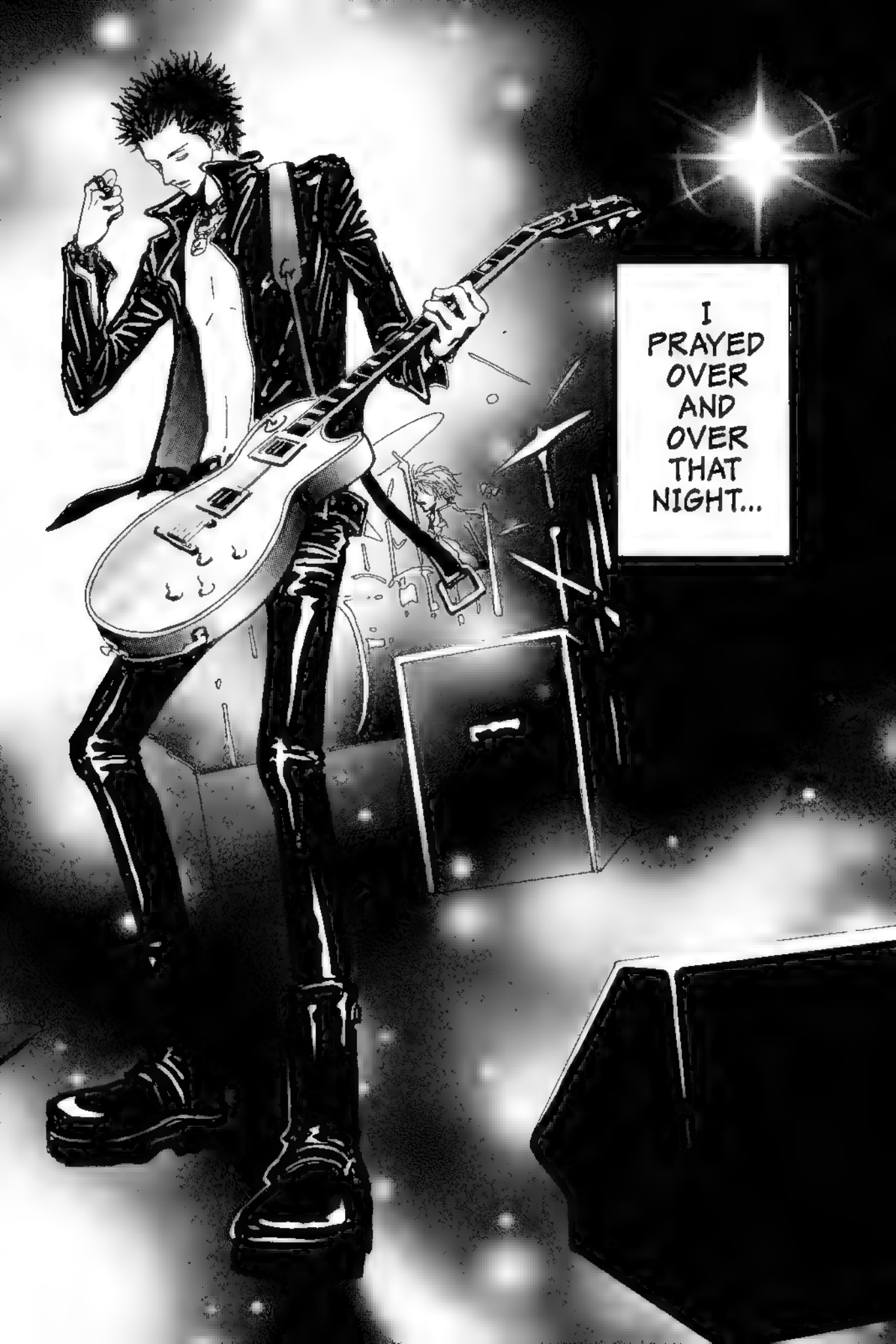

NANA GETS THE BEST SEAT...
RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE GUITAR.
THUMP
THUMP
UNBELIEVE-ABLE...
I COULD JUST CRY.
THE STAGE IS CLOSER THAN I THOUGHT.
ALL RIGHT... TRY NOT TO CRY...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

tap...
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
.....
NANA...
1-21

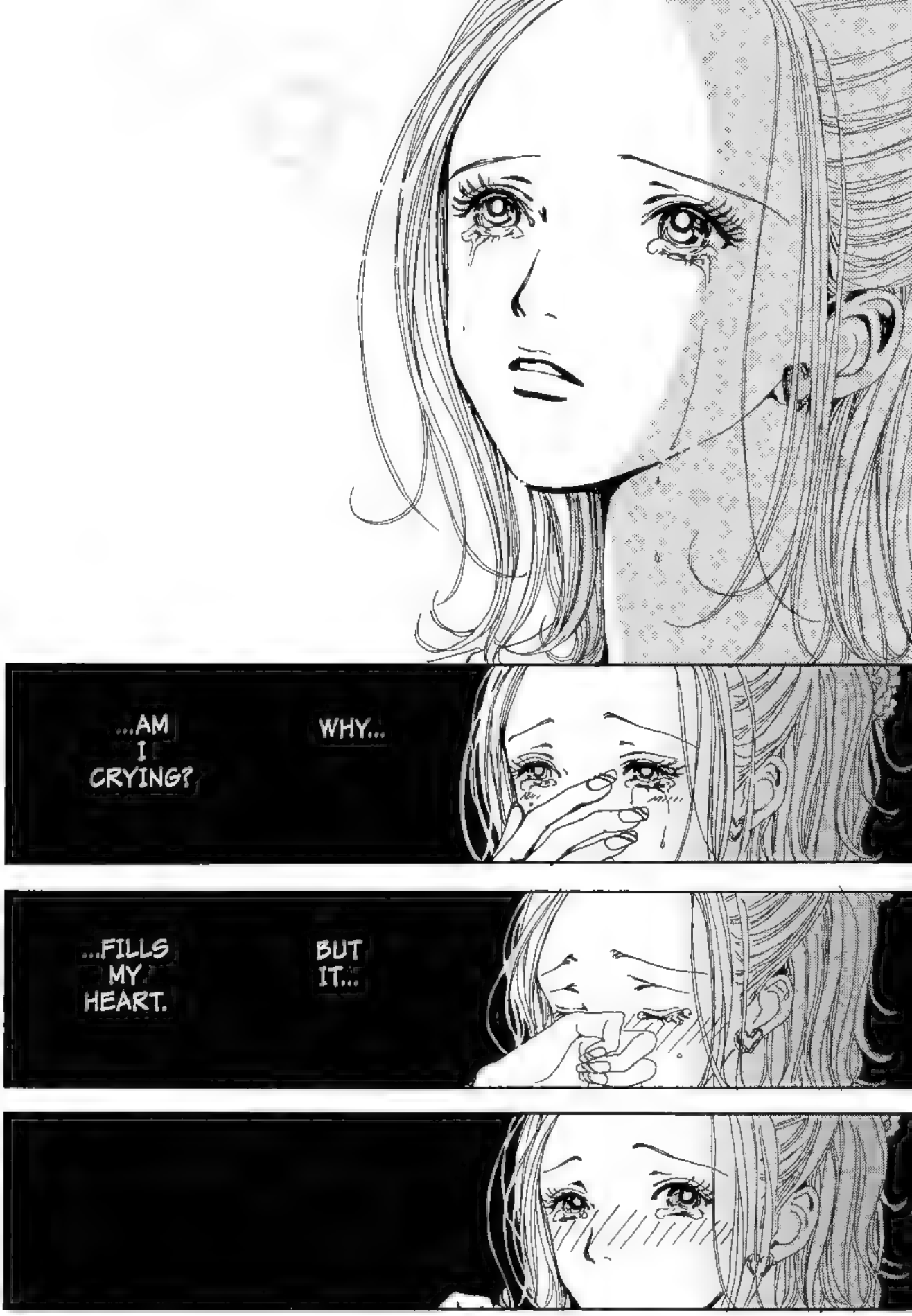
thump
thump
thump
thump
thump
thump
REN!
Ugh...
Whoosh
NANA!
Jump
Wheeze...
Sick

WOOHOO!

RIGHT THEN ...
...I WAS SO MOVED, I WAS BREATH-LESS.
WORDS JUST CAN'T EXPRESS THAT MOMENT...


I PRAYED OVER AND OVER THAT NIGHT...

...THAT THE FATE AWAITING NANA...
... WOULD BE A HAPPY ONE.


...AM I CRYING?
WHY...
...FILLS MY HEART.
BUT IT...

NANA...

THE HAND THAT I WAS HOLDING THEN...

...WAS THE ONLY ONE I WANTED TO HOLD...

...THAT NIGHT...

...AND FOREVER...

7F SNACK BAR
Junko's Place
Paradise Kiss
I WANT GEORGE TO CARRY ME AWAY LIKE A PRINCESS, TOO!
YUKARI IS SO DAMN LUCKY!
I HEARD HE SHREDS ON GUITAR.
MAYBE HE CAN PLAY IN BLAST.
I WANNA BE HIS SEVENTH WIFE!
WHY ARASHI?!
LISTEN UP!
HE'S ONLY NICE IN THE BEGINNING.
SOON HE'LL BE DRIPPING CANDLE WAX ON YOU.
BUT HE'S SO HOT! ♡
YOU THINK?!
HOW?
THEN WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THE PARAKISS CREW?
TRADE PLACES WITH ARASHI!

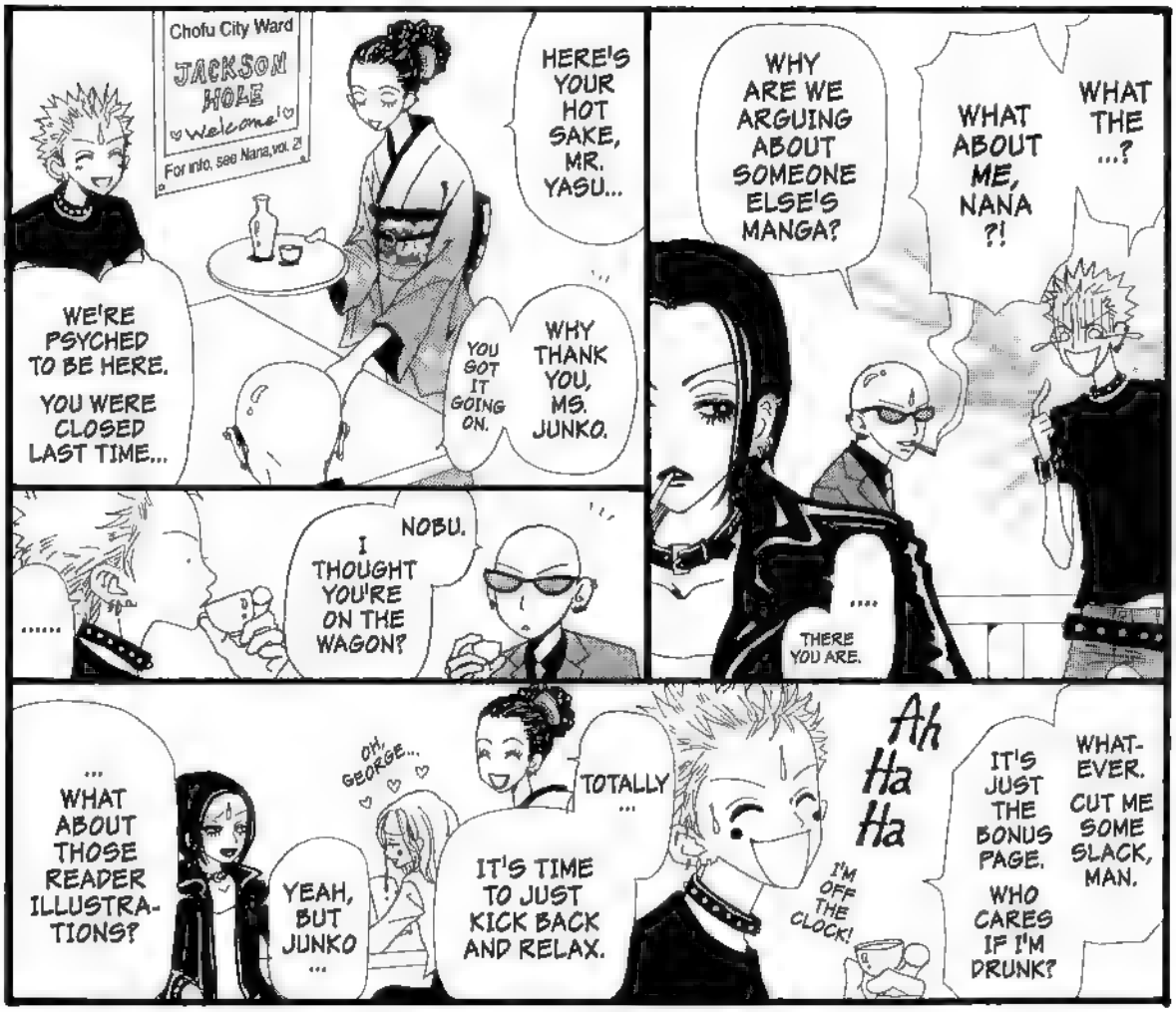

Chofu City Ward
JACKSON HOLE
♡Welcome!♡
For info, see Nana, vol. 2!
WE'RE PSYCHED TO BE HERE.
YOU WERE CLOSED LAST TIME...
HERE'S YOUR HOT SAKE, MR. YASU...
WHY THANK YOU, MS. JUNKO.
YOU GOT IT GOING ON.
.....
NOBU. I THOUGHT YOU'RE ON THE WAGON?
WHY ARE WE ARGUING ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE'S MANGA?
WHAT ABOUT ME, NANA ?!
WHAT THE ...?
....
THERE YOU ARE.
... WHAT ABOUT THOSE READER ILLUSTRATIONS?
YEAH, BUT JUNKO ...
OH, GEORGE...
IT'S TIME TO JUST KICK BACK AND RELAX.
TOTALLY ...
Ah Ha Ha
I'M OFF THE CLOCK!
IT'S JUST THE BONUS PAGE.
WHO CARES IF I'M DRUNK?
WHATEVER. CUT ME SOME SLACK, MAN.

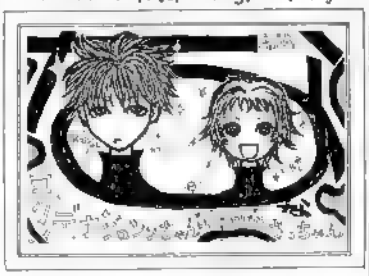
Illustration Corner

NORIJIGIRI Kyoto

SORA Hokkaido

HOSHI NO KUNI Iwate

KASHIMASHI SUME Fukuoka



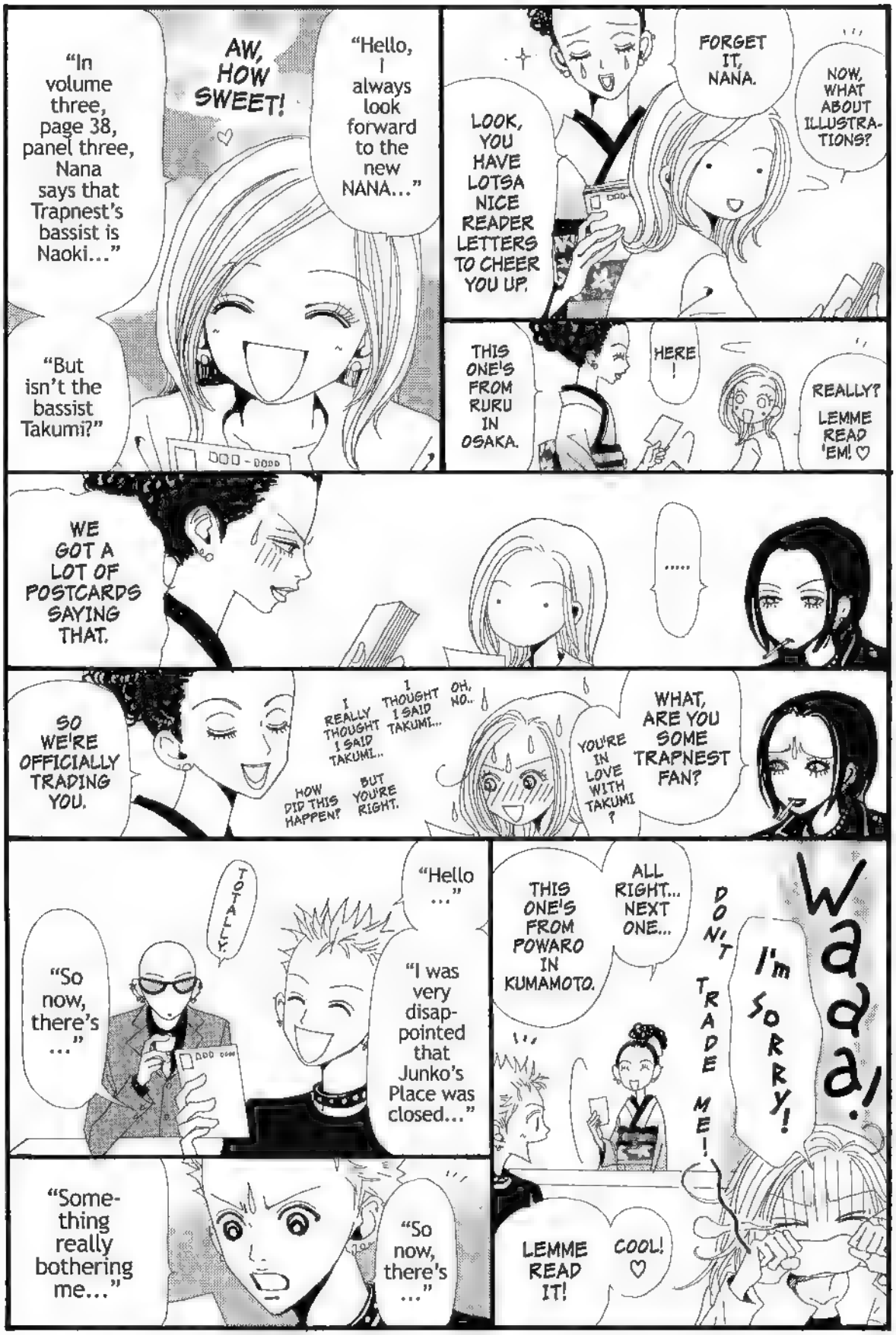
WANWAN HAATO Saitama

PURAIMU Kyoto

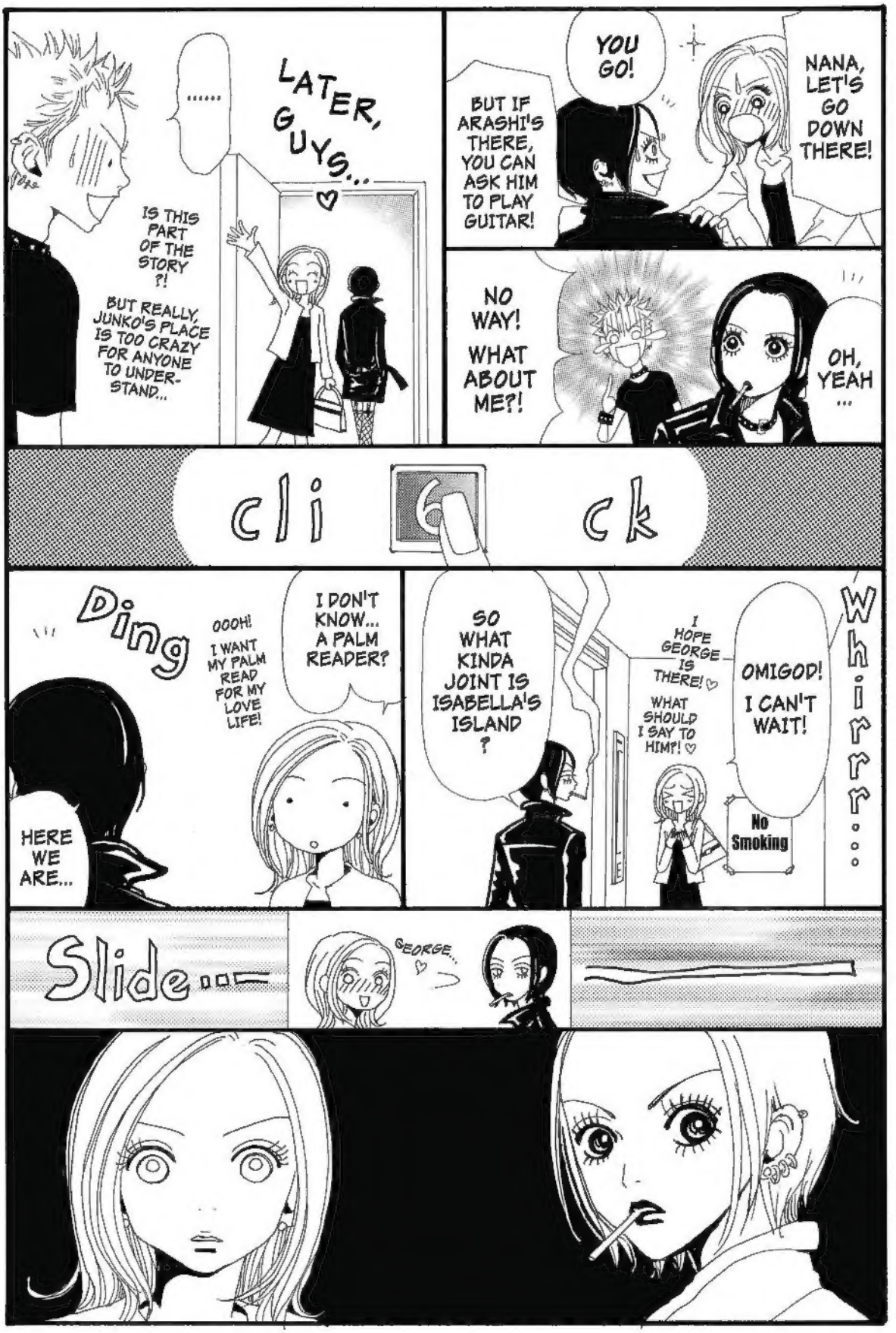
WHY'S IT FRAMED IN BLACK?

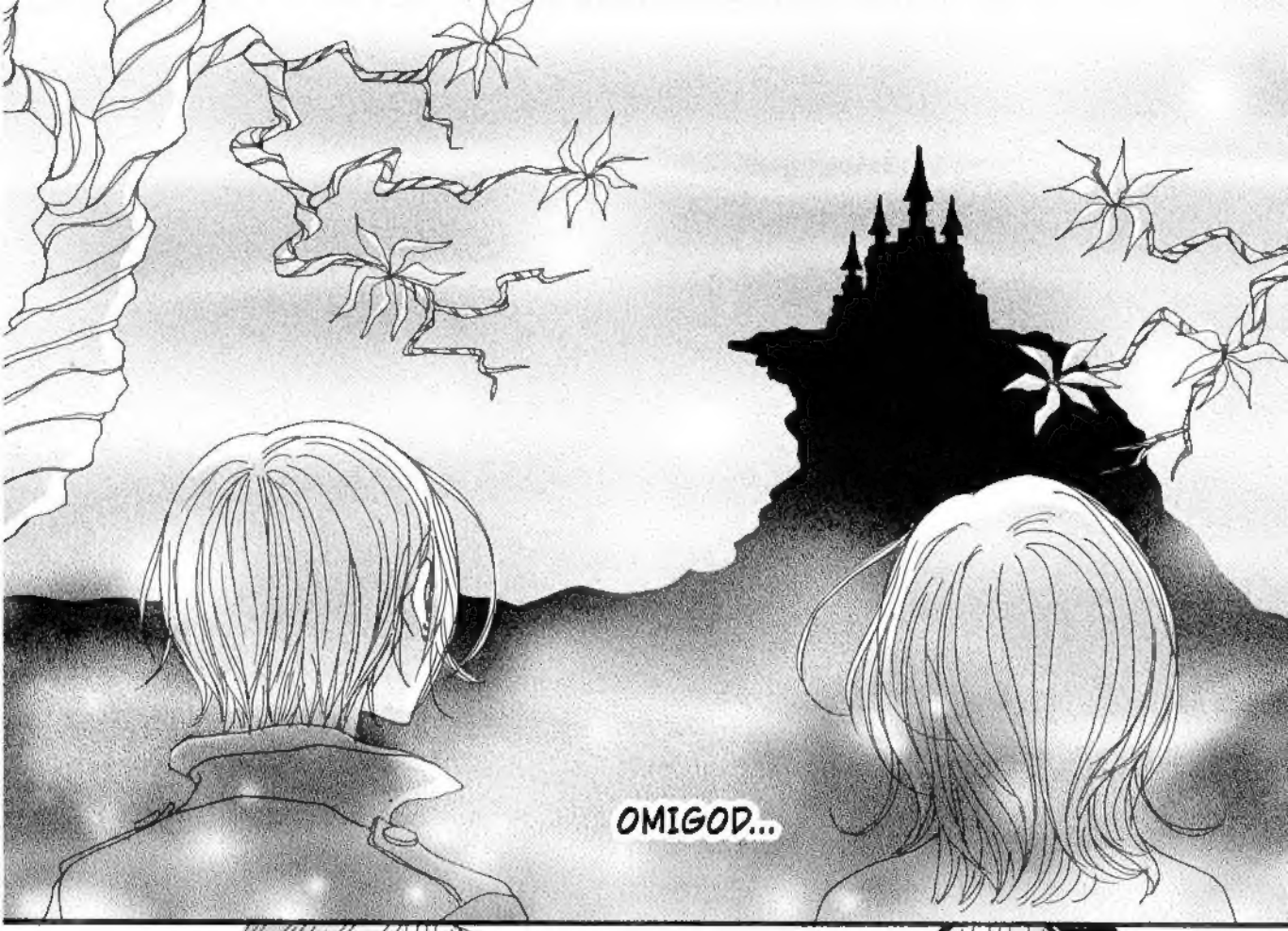
SORA'S A REGULAR!

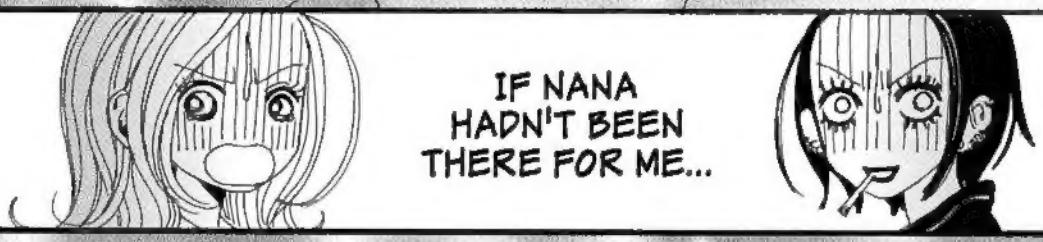
Now Jiro shows up! (by Gokinjyo Monogatari)


"In volume three, page 38, panel three, Nana says that Trapnest's bassist is Naoki..."
"But isn't the bassist Takumi?"
AW, HOW SWEET!
"Hello, I always look forward to the new NANA..."
FORGET IT, NANA.
NOW, WHAT ABOUT ILLUSTRATIONS?
LOOK, YOU HAVE LOTSA NICE READER LETTERS TO CHEER YOU UP.
THIS ONE'S FROM RURU IN OSAKA.
HERE!
REALLY? LEMME READ 'EM! ♡
WE GOT A LOT OF POSTCARDS SAYING THAT.
.....
SO WE'RE OFFICIALLY TRADING YOU.
I REALLY THOUGHT I SAID TAKUMI..
I THOUGHT I SAID TAKUMI...
OH, NO..
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT.
YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH TAKUMI?
WHAT, ARE YOU SOME TRAPNEST FAN?
"Hello..."
TOTALLY.
"So now, there's..."
"I was very disappointed that Junko's Place was closed..."
"Something really bothering me..."
"So now, there's..."
THIS ONE'S FROM POWARO IN KUMAMOTO.
ALL RIGHT... NEXT ONE...
DON'T TRADE ME!
Wada!
I'm SORRY!
LEMME READ IT!
COOL! ♡

"Please tell me!"
"My life depends on it!"
Should I go to Bar Mamiya on the third floor? Or should I go to Sobadokoro Noriji on the fourth floor? Please tell me! My life depends on it!
"Or should I go to Sobadokoro Noriji on the fourth floor?"
"Should I go to Bar Mamiya on the third floor?"
JUST DO BOTH, FOOL.
BUT DON'T YOU WANNA SEE MAMIRIN TEND BAR?
TOUGH CHOICE!
LET'S EAT SOBA!
I'LL GO TO SOBA.
.....
IN VOLUME THREE, THEY HAD A SIGN UP IN THE CORNER...
NANA 3
THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT JOINTS IN THE YAZAWA BUILDING.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT ARE THOSE PLACES?
.....
YOU'RE RIGHT!
ISABELLA'S ISLAND ON THE SIXTH FLOOR... IS THAT ISABELLA FROM PARAKISS?
HEY, JUN!
YEAH.
I GUESS...
SO IF I GO DOWN THERE, I CAN MEET GEORGE?
.....
NANA 3
THIS IS FINAL!
☆ The Scene ☆
Junko's Place
Isabella Island
Hirom
NORIJI'S (OF "GOKINJYO MONO-GATARI") SOBA SPOT.
NO ONE REMEM-BERS THIS.
MAMI-RIN'S (OF "TENSHI NANKA JYA NAI") SEXY BAR.


LATER, GUYS...
.....
IS THIS PART OF THE STORY ?!
BUT REALLY, JUNKO'S PLACE IS TOO CRAZY FOR ANYONE TO UNDER-STAND...
NANA, LET'S GO DOWN THERE!
YOU GO!
BUT IF ARASHI'S THERE, YOU CAN ASK HIM TO PLAY GUITAR!
OH, YEAH ...
NO WAY!
WHAT ABOUT ME?!
cli ck
Whirrr...
OMIGOD! I CAN'T WAIT!
No Smoking
I HOPE GEORGE IS THERE!
WHAT SHOULD I SAY TO HIM?!
SO WHAT KINDA JOINT IS ISABELLA'S ISLAND ?
Ding
I DON'T KNOW... A PALM READER?
OOOH! I WANT MY PALM READ FOR MY LOVE LIFE!
HERE WE ARE...
Slide...
GEORGE...





I WOULD HAVE THROWN MYSELF INTO THE TAMA RIVER.

I'M SURE OF THAT.

Nana c/o Shojo Beat
VIZ Media
PO Box 77010
San Francisco,
CA 94133

WE'LL BE OPEN NEXT ISSUE, TOO!! (PROBABLY...)

I realized one day that there are hit songs with the same names as the main female characters, NANA, JUNKO and SACHIKO. (The kanji for JUNKO is different, though.) It's not that big a deal, but I sometimes just hum the melodies longingly.

–Ai Yazawa

Ai Yazawa is the creator of many popular manga titles, including *Tenshi Nanka Janai* (I'm No Angel) and *Gokinjo Monogatari* (Neighborhood Story). Another series, *Kagen no Tsuki* (Last Quarter), was made into a live-action movie and released in late 2004. American readers were introduced to Yazawa's stylish and sexy storytelling in 2002 when her title *Paradise Kiss* was translated into English.

Nana is the all-time best-selling shojo title from Japanese publishing giant Shueisha, and the series even garnered a Shogakukan Manga Award in the girls category in 2003 and a nomination for the Osamu Tezuka Cultural Award in 2006. A live-action *Nana* movie was released in Japan in 2005.

NANA
VOL. 4

Shojo Beat Manga Edition

This manga volume contains material that was originally published in English in *Shojo Beat* magazine, May–August 2006.

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RATED
T+
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PARENTAL ADVISORY
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